THE TIMES

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TODAY
10P

HAS THE CLAUDIA BUBBLE BURST?

Schiffer on her future with catwalks and Copperfield PAGE 17

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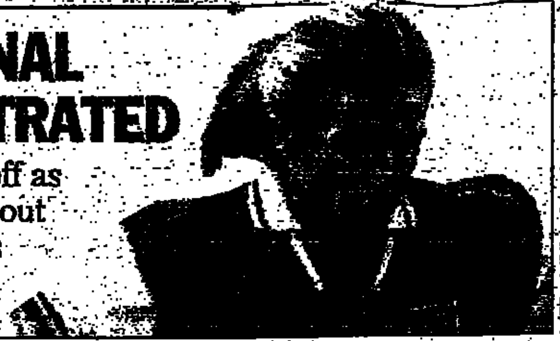

TODAY
10P

‘She was only doing her duty. Who else was doing their duty? No one as far as I can see’

WPC’s father accuses courts of failing her

By Paul Rees, Richard Ford and Michael Horsnell

TONY WHITE

A policewoman arranges flowers left by members of the public at Stratford police station in east London. Nina Mackay was based there

WPC Mackay: she died after breaking down door

THE father of WPC Nina Mackay criticised the judicial system yesterday when it was revealed that a man arrested for killing his daughter had been given bail after being accused of assault.

Sidney Mackay, 54, a retired police chief superintendent, said: “My argument is that it is the police not the social services or the courts who have to pick up the pieces for the failings of society. At times like these they pay the heaviest price.

“Her death was needless. She was only doing her duty. Who else was doing their duty? No one else as far as I can see.”

Somalia-born Magdi Elsueki Mohammed Elgizouli will appear before magistrates in Stratford, east London, today charged with murder. He is single, unemployed and is understood to have been receiving medical treatment for mental problems.

He was arrested on October 14 when police were called to a suspected arson attack on a hotel in Stoke Newington. He appeared at Highbury Corner magistrates court on October 15 but, despite opposition from the police and the Crown Prosecution Service, was freed on bail by a stipendiary magistrate to live in Stratford provided he reported daily to the local police station.

He failed to report and on October 17 was arrested by police in Worthing for theft but was released on bail again.

Officers from 3 Area Territorial Support Group, a mobile back-up unit, went to arrest Mr Elgizouli for breaching bail conditions and expected the door of his flat in Stratford, east London, to be barricaded.

WPC Mackay, 25, had been trained in the use of the ram, known as an “enforcer”, just 24 hours earlier.

She was supposed to break down the door and stand aside to allow eight male colleagues with protective shields and body armour to enter. She took a practice swing with a hydraulic ram but found the heavy body armour cumbersome and took it off.

She then tried again but instead of being barricaded, the door flew open and sent her flying into the room. She received stab wounds to the abdomen and died two hours later in hospital. She is the first policewoman to be killed on duty since WPC Yvonne Fletcher, who was shot outside the Libyan Embassy in London in 1984.

Mr Mackay said: “Too frequently today under the guise of care in the community there are people at large who should clearly be in secure positions. The judicial system is written by lawyers, run by lawyers, for lawyers to make money.

“The judiciary is not accountable. Has the magistrate who allowed this man loose on the street any concept of duty or care to the community at large?”

Mr Mackay also criticised the defence lawyers’ role in getting the man out on bail. “I hope they can live with their consciences because they are responsible for that man being loose on the streets.”

Mr Mackay said the blame for his daughter’s death did not lie with body armour. “Body armour is not the be all and end all. All it does it give the police a bit more of a defence. If she had been wearing it, I do not think it would have helped her.

“I do not know what body armour she was wearing but it is important because the implication is that my daughter has been the architect of her own death by removing it.

“Even if she had been wearing the vest it would have been highly unlikely that it would have protected her at all. And even if she had been wearing the external protection there is a high probability that it would not have protected her from the stabbing.”

He said that his daughter had confided in him that during the past year she had been frightened when she and colleagues arrested some armed criminals. “I told her ‘we do not run away’.”

He added: “I would like to say to the police officers who were with Nina that they should not blame themselves. It was my daughter today, it will be someone else’s tomorrow.”

Mr Mackay, who retired after 32 years as a police officer, has one other child, Nicholas, 29, who is also a policeman and serving with the Metropolitan Police firearms unit, tried to stop his daughter joining the police. “I wanted her to do something else but she was a very determined young lady. She had her own views.”

At 19, Miss Mackay went to the Metropolitan Police Training College in Hendon, north London. “She was a bright girl. She did not work as hard as she could have done but she was like any other young girl,” he added. “She liked going out with her friends and going clubbing and buying clothes.”

Last night Mike Bennett, chairman of the Police Federation, called for changes in the bail laws as a matter of urgency and accused magistrates of being out of touch with violence faced by police. “Perhaps they should do a few night beats to see what it is really like.”

Tributes to WPC Mackay were led by Tony Blair, who expressed his horror at the “appalling and vicious crime”. The Prime Minister, speaking in Edinburgh, said: “Our deepest sympathies go to the family of the police officer.”

Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, added: “Tragically for circumstances which we are still exploring and trying to understand, it would seem she was not wearing her protective vest when she received the fatal injuries.”

Life of danger, page 5

Call for petition on Lockerbie

The Government was threatened with a nationwide petition in Scotland if it continues to block a compromise over the trial of two men suspected of the Lockerbie bombing. A spokesman for relatives said they would call on Scots to back a Libyan plan for a trial in a third country....... Page 2

Abortion plea

Cardinal Basil Hume, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, urged the Prime Minister to help to change the hearts and minds of those who doubt that abortion is “a great evil”................ Page 9

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Blair promises to clear away EMU confusion

By Philip Webster and Jill Sherman

TONY BLAIR admitted last night that the Government had suffered a rough time over the single currency as he promised to clear up any lingering doubts today with a “definitive and detailed” statement from Gordon Brown.

Implicitly acknowledging that the Government’s honeymoon had ended because of the confusion of recent weeks, Mr Blair promised that after today the British people, the business community and the rest of Europe would know where they stood.

He was speaking as the Chancellor, spending his Sunday at the Treasury, put the last touches to a Commons statement that will rule out early single currency membership on economic grounds — but reassure Europe that Britain is not opposed to the project in principle and will work to meet the tests he has set for entry.

He is also expected to tell business that it should prepare for the possibility of entry one day.

As the Prime Minister’s official spokesman admitted that the Government had “taken a knock” over the way it had handled the issue, Mr Blair and the Chancellor consulted throughout the weekend over a statement that is expected to have a pro-European slant despite a decision on the single currency that will disappoint his European colleagues.

Mr Brown will confirm that Britain will not enter the first wave in 1999, and make plain that there will have to be a lengthy period of stability, leading up to the next election, during which the impact of EMU on the British economy would have to be assessed.

However, his readiness to countenance British membership after that election, and an expected promise to the rest of Europe that Britain will help to make it work, will ensure that single currency will be central to the campaign when the Government does go to the country. Mr Brown believes a referendum could happen soon after then if Labour is returned to power.

William Hague has hardened up the Tory stance; the Conservatives will oppose EMU at the next election.

But in a letter to the *The Times* today an all-party group of pro-Europeans, including Lord Howe, the former Tory Foreign Secretary, and Roy Hattersley, the former Labour Deputy Leader, herald a new campaign involving business, the unions and politicians to win over the public to a single currency.

Mr Blair and Mr Brown also consulted Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday after internal criticism that there had been inadequate discussion before Mr Brown gave his interview to *The Times* ten days ago in which he signalled his intention to rule out member-

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Leading article and Letters, page 21
Dealer anxiety, page 48

Schumacher fails to snatch Villeneuve title

Jacques Villeneuve celebrates becoming World Formula One champion in Jerez in Spain yesterday after surviving an attempt by the German Michael Schumacher to barge him into a gravel trap. The deliberate collision, later excused by the stewards as “a racing incident” cost the German driver the chance of his third title when is own car slewed into the gravel.

“Michael showed his true colours and got what he deserved,” said retiring champion Damon Hill, who lost the chance of the title in a similar clash with Schumacher at the Australian Grand Prix in 1994. Frank Williams, Villeneuve’s employer, added: “It was Adelaide revisited. This time it was Jacques.”

Schumacher protested his innocence, to little effect.

Race report, pages 25, 27

Army to allow women soldiers on the front line

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

THOUSANDS of women soldiers will be allowed to serve on the front line with gunners and engineers under plans to be unveiled today by the Government.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, will also announce a study into whether women should be allowed to fight in combat roles alongside men. The moves will be seen as Mr Robertson’s attempt to take Labour’s modernisation campaign to the armed forces.

He is to announce that the number of jobs open to women in the Army will increase by nearly 50 per cent and that they will be able to apply for the first time to take frontline jobs. But for the time being they will not be allowed to take combat jobs as infantry soldiers or tank crew.

Mr Robertson is to announce that all regular Army posts will be open to women, except those in the infantry, Household Cavalry or Royal Armoured Corps, whose members are likely to be in face-to-face contact with an enemy.

But he is to lift the current bar on women serving in Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers or Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers posts that are in direct support of infantry or tanks.

This will mean that women will be able to compete for jobs such as forward radio operators, combat engineers and artillery gunners that will take them nearer to the enemy than most of their male colleagues. They will have to pass the same rigorous physical and mental tests. At present women are not allowed ahead of the logistic support vehicles that back up fighting units.

Until now the military judgment has been that women fighting alongside men could impair the effectiveness of the armed forces. But Mr Robertson has decided that it is time to look at that judgment again. It is expected that senior military officers will strongly oppose any moves to give women fighting roles.

At present only 47 per cent of Army jobs are open to women: in practice only 7,000 of the 109,000 jobs in the Army are taken by women.

“Women make up only 6.3 per cent of the Army and that should surely change,” a government source said. The source denied that Mr Robertson was taking a “politically correct” attitude. “We want positive action, not positive discrimination,” the source said.

For change to occur traditional attitudes will have to be beaten down, ministers admit. In 1994 Congress ordered the US Army to open up 47,000 combat-related jobs to women, but currently there are only 815 women fill them.

The Army is regarded as a last bastion of opposition by equal opportunities campaigners. In the Navy 74 per cent of posts are open to women and in the Royal Air Force 97 per cent of jobs, including that of fighter pilot, can go to women.

Mr Robertson will call today for “modern armed forces for the modern world”.

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Families back Lockerbie plan

Ministers are under pressure to accept Libyan compromise reports

Michael Binyon

THE Government was threatened yesterday with a nationwide petition in Scotland if it continued to block an offer of compromise over the trial of two men suspected of the Lockerbie bombing.

The spokesman for relatives of those who died in the attack issued a warning that it would call on the Scots to support acceptance of the Libyan proposal to try the suspects in a third country.

Jim Swire, who lost a daughter in the bombing, said the relatives in Britain had concluded that a trial in Scotland or America was "simply not achievable". At a press conference held to support President Mandela's call for a compromise, he said they had been given so many reasons why such a trial could not be held that they had concluded that these were transparently excuses.

President Mandela publicly called on Britain at the weekend to allow justice to be "seen to be done", and repeated claims by the Organisation of African Unity and the Arab League that this would be impossible in Scotland.

Dr Swire said that the relatives had become the playthings of lawyers and politicians. He accused the previous Government of a "monstrous scenario of denial of justice", and implied there was a deliberate attempt to block further investigation. New evidence showed that the bombing was a revenge attack by Iran for the shooting down of a civilian airbus by the Americans six months earlier.

He denied that a trial abroad was impossible under Scottish law: only a small amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill was needed. He called on the Government to listen to President Mandela and admit that previous advice had been wrong. Britain had followed too long in America's footsteps. "To break ranks with the world's sole remaining superpower will be a brave but honest move."

He was speaking just before talks with Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary. Earlier Mr Cook laid out Britain's opposition to trying the two suspects in a third country. Such a trial would not be held under Scottish law and the families of the US victims would never agree.

Britain would have to change the law to allow a trial to be held abroad, he said. If it was in The Netherlands, as has been suggested, the Dutch would too. It would be impossible to have a jury trial as the proceedings could last several months, and 12 Scottish men and women could not be held abroad for that time.

Mr Cook said on BBC1's *Breakfast With Frost*: "I am absolutely confident that a Scottish court would provide an impartial trial." He said it was impossible to have a Dutch or international jury meeting under Scottish law.

After his talks with Dr Swire, Mr Cook said the Government saw a settlement of the Lockerbie case as a priority and was willing to consider any solution. But there was a very big question mark over whether any trial conducted abroad and without a jury could be fair.

Mr Cook and Tony Blair discussed Lockerbie with President Mandela on Saturday, and Mr Blair said the South African leader was simply trying to find a way through the impasse.

Leading article, page 21

Cook: insisting on a trial in Scotland

Prime Minsters Goh Chok Tong of Singapore, left, Jean Chrétien of Canada and their counterpart, Sitiveni Rabuka of Fiji, right, enjoy their game

Spin doctor fails to correct a nasty slice

By Jill Sherman and Shirley English

ALISTAIR Campbell failed to put the right kind of spin on matters yesterday when he took on the Old Course at St Andrews.

For a start, the Prime Minister's press secretary was substituting for his boss, who had disappointed the crowds at the Sunday retreat of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference by failing to make an appearance on the tennis court. Holidaymakers, the press gallery and St Andrews students had to make do with Mr Campbell, who demonstrated a similar level of control over his golf as his party had done over its difficulties with the single European currency.

Mr Campbell shot a triple bogey seven at the first hole. His second shot swerved into the Swilken Burn, from which he had to take a penalty drop. In full view of spectators at the Royal and Ancient, he chipped onto the green and three-putted.

Worse was to come on the second hole, where he sliced his tee shot, shanked his second and again took three putts. Shortly after this he cut the round short, coming back down the last three holes.

The 17th hole might have turned out better had Mr Campbell not committed the heinous crime of using his mobile phone: they are banned from the course. On the 18th, the show nearly turned to tragedy when he hit his ball into the crowd, skimming the head of a woman spectator. One golfing enthusiast commented: "He had a swing like a caveman killing his lunch."

Needless to say, Mr Campbell lost his game to his colleague, John Holmes, Mr Blair's principal private secretary. Later, he tried to put a bit of extra spin on his game. "I played really well," he said. "On the third and sixteenth I got a par."

Almost a third of the world's leaders descended on St Andrews yesterday for a few hours of relaxation before the final day of the Commonwealth summit in Edinburgh today. Delegates and their wives travelled 50 miles to the coast in a luxury train for the seven-hour retreat at the Old Course Hotel.

Although aides hauled several golf bags off the train, only a handful of the party, including the Rt Hon Jean Chrétien, the Canadian Prime Minister, and The Hon Goh Chok Tong, Prime Minister of Singapore, took the opportunity to play on the famous links.

They were joined by Fiji, Trinidad, Antigua and Ghana. The Vice-President of Zambia, Brigadier General Godfrey Miyanda, and His Majesty Mswati III, King of Swaziland, played squash. Mr Blair, dressed casually in sports jacket and navy blue chinos, was seen briefly after lunch walking arm in arm with President Mandela in the hotel grounds and strolling across the course with Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth Secretary-General. He chatted to the public on a brisk walk along West Sands beach, accompanied by a posse of security men and photographers.

Senior Tory MP may join rival party

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

THE senior Tory backbencher Peter Temple-Morris is considering defecting from his party over William Hague's decision to fight the next election on a campaign to oppose the single currency.

Mr Temple-Morris, MP for Leominster and one of the leading organisers on the Tory party's liberal wing, may resign in spite of apparent assurances from the whips that he would both be able to vote against his own party's line in the Commons and to campaign agains it at the election.

He was quoted widely at the weekend as saying: "I am a member of the Conservatives — at the moment."

Mr Temple-Morris has written to his local association saying that Mr Hague's new stance is contrary to his personal statement at the last election. If he defects he is understood to be more likely to go to Labour than the Liberal Democrats. However, he will be listening closely to Gordon Brown's statement today, hoping that it will contain a commitment to work to prepare Britain for monetary union.

Mr Temple-Morris has told friends that the prospect of being treated by the Tories as a kind of "licensed leper" at the next election fills him with dismay. He is understood to be sympathetic to substantial parts of Tony Blair's constitutional reform agenda and other policies.

He is one of several pro-European Tories unhappy at Mr Hague's position, but he is the only one believed to be thinking of quitting.

Temple-Morris: on party's liberal wing

NEWS IN BRIEF

Loyalist [illegible]eat to thre[illegible]'s Dublin diplomats

Loyalist paramilitaries have threatened to kill Irish diplomats working for the Anglo-Irish secretariat unless they leave Northern Ireland by tomorrow night. The warnings were issued as a man was killed by a car bomb on a loyalist estate in what police believe may have been an internal feud. David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, brushed aside dissenters at his party's annual conference to win backing for his decision to stay at the Stormont peace talks.

Exam regrades

Examination boards are to be set new targets for regrades to spare hundreds of A-level students delays that sometimes cost them a university place. After an unprecedented number of late appeals, changes will be proposed by Dame Elizabeth Anson, chairman of the Independent Appeals Authority.

Queen to go live

Buckingham Palace and ITN are in discussions for the Queen to broadcast her annual Christmas message live for the first time since 1959. The success of the Queen's live address to the nation on the eve of the Princess of Wales's funeral is said to have influenced the Christmas plan.

Rector backed

The Rev Clifford Williams, found guilty by a church court over an affair, received a strong show of support from parishioners at St Andrew's church in Benllech, North Wales, yesterday. One, Beryl Edwards, is to seek legal advice over remarks, reported in the press, by the Bishop of Bangor.

Sea cave rescue

A police diver rescued three members of a boating party, including a 13-year-old girl, trapped overnight in a cave off Co Mayo on Ireland's west coast, but another of the boaters and an amateur diver who had tried to rescue the group died. The survivors, trapped for 20 hours, were treated for hypothermia.

Memorial jump

Bing the dog made a special parachute jump to commemorate the first recorded descent by parachute 200 years ago — also by a dog. Bing, a stuffed and mounted alsatian cross, was strapped to Corporal Kevin Whitehouse. Bing received the Dickin Medal after jumping over Normandy on D-Day, 1944.

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Blair

Continued from page 1

ship during the present Parliament. Other ministers were being contacted last night and all Cabinet members will see the statement this morning. A senior government source said: "A lot of painful lessons are being learnt from the events of the last few days."

Mr Blair took time out from the Commonwealth summit in Edinburgh to say: "Rough times come and go. We have to deal with them but in the end what matters is to face up to the big issues and come up with the right answers. The policy is right. It will be the right policy for Britain and it will be done on economic grounds."

He added: "People must know where they stand, our partners in Europe must know where they stand and business must know where they stand. The statement will be clear, definitive and detailed and people will say to us in a few days that a bad press has a small part to play for strength and stability."

The heavy stress on the Government's decision being taken on economic grounds was intended clearly as further reassurance to the markets and Europe that Labour is not opposed to the single currency on principle.

Mr Brown will back that up today by publishing a lengthy Treasury study on the tests he has outlined for British membership. It is understood to conclude that there is a strong case against early entry because of the potential impact on jobs.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*, Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat Leader, accused the present Government and previous Tory administration of "cowardice" for which the country and its business "has paid a very heavy price".

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Academic joke that grew into a legend

Exposed at last: the long-forgotten British hero who was invented by 'professors behaving badly'. Nick Nuttall unravels the hoax

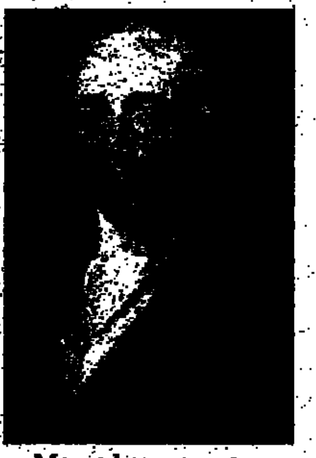
SOME men rise to greatness, some have it thrust upon them. And one was simply made up by a group of academics, whose joke got a little out of hand.

The name of Joseph Crabtree has been gaining ground for 40 years. Supposedly he was a poet, inventor and intellectual colossus who towered above other luminaries of the late 18th and early 19th century. The fact that this great man did not feature in any of the standard texts was apparently due to his powerful enemies suppressing the truth of his achievements.

And his achievements were many. According to a book put together by 200 academics with links to University College London, he invented the velocipede — an early primitive bicycle — well before the accepted date. He also proposed the first international system of decimilisation, invented soda water and created something known as the Siamese marine engine. Born in Chipping Sodbury in 1754, he counted the poet Wordsworth, philosopher and poet Goethe, writer Sir Walter Scott, and the scientist William Banks among his circle. Regularly shipwrecked, well travelled and often bankrupt after an error of business judgment, he lived to be 100 and was buried in Haworth with the Brontes.

Or rather, not. For Mr Crabtree never existed. The trouble is that the academics who invented him have been developing his life story for so long at annual dinners, that they had enough material for a doorstopper of a book, which they paid to publish. It is a dense compilation of orations about Crabtree's days which they have been delivering since 1954.

Then they made their mistake. They wanted to share their private joke with a wider audience, so they tried to fool *The Times*.



Man who never was: portrait of Crabtree

Negley Harte, secretary of the Crabtree Foundation and an historian at University College London, followed up a news story that a sketch of a bicycle attributed to Leonardo da Vinci was in fact a 1960s doodle. He said: "I have read with interest your piece in *The Times*. It seems likely you are not familiar with the light thrown on the matter in the 1992 Crabtree oration. You may, after perusing the Crabtree volume, want to make some further reference in print."

Professor Peter Armour of Royal Holloway College, University of London, and a purported authority on Crabtree's Italian period, attributed a Leonardo bicycle sketch to Crabtree, and said it was hoped that the new book and reviews in a newspaper such as *The Times* would allow Crabtree to finally "receive some public recognition".

This would "bring a few smiles to people's faces", he said. The reputation of the great man had been damaged by him "gathering a lot of powerful enemies — it is a big problem for the foundation. Here is this virtually forgotten British poet and polymath who has never been fully recognised. Yet we believe he was a bigger genius than Leonardo da Vinci. He is a forgotten icon of scholarship."

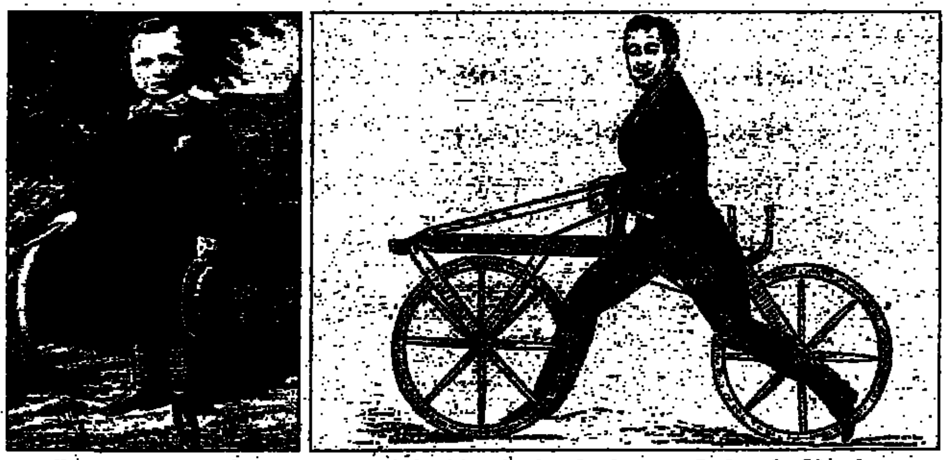
The truth was admitted by Lord McNally, Prime Minister James Callaghan's former press spokesman, a member of the foundation and graduate of UCL: "It is the longest running academic joke — a lot of professors behaving badly."

He was invited to join the foundation, set up by the late Sir James Sutherland, ten years ago. Other members are said to include Reginald Jones, assistant Director of Intelligence (Science) at the Air Ministry during the Second World War, Sir Derek Roberts, provost of UCL, and, er, Desmond Lynam, the broadcaster.

"If you read the book, you realise that there has been more research into Crabtree than in the average Phd thesis. The spoof contains just enough credibility to work," Lord McNally said. *The Times* was "as ever on the ball" yet this was unlikely to be the last word on the myth.

"Every third Tuesday in February, the foundation meets for what academics term a monumental piss-up and an annual oration. I try to keep my head down so I am not asked to do the next year's oration. You put your reputation on the line for wit and scholarship," he said.

Professor Armour inisisted: "He is not made up. I have to maintain this. I have spent so long doing research."



The young Joseph Crabtree and the bicycle that he invented ahead of its time: his life and work were originally said to have been suppressed by his enemies

Motorists should be tested every few years, say MEPs

From Charles Bremner in Brussels and Tim Jones

A GROUP of Euro-MPs has proposed that all motorists be forced to retake their driving test every five or ten years.

The MEPs believe that the refresher tests would help to save some of the 45,000 lives lost on roads in the European Union each year.

Mark Watts, a Labour member of the European Parliament's transport committee, which came up with the idea, said: "It does seem strange that you can be granted a licence of up to 50 years to drive a vehicle which can kill, regardless of your standard of driving. Most accidents are the result of human error. To save lives we must take tough decisions."

Members of the committee are concerned about the upsurge of "road rage" offences and believe that retests could be used to identify and ban aggressive drivers.

Their proposal was welcomed by Dave Rogers, road safety adviser at the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. He said: "Ideally, we need a test which would spot the people who train to 'perform' on the day and then forget all about it later. Retests might at least help them to correct bad habits which have built up over the years."

But Rebecca Rees of the AA said implementation of the plan would be a bureaucratic nightmare, requiring 2.5 million retests a year. She said: "It's not really addressing the people who cause the majority of road accidents, who are youngsters. Most drivers in the UK are safe drivers. To make everybody take a driving test every ten years would have no real safety benefit."

Neil Kinnock, the Transport Commissioner, is keen to improve road safety and has called for a reduction in Britain's drink-driving limit. But when asked about the driving test proposal, a spokesman for Mr Kinnock said: "This is a matter for individual member states."

The Department of Transport and the Environment said that it had no plans to introduce regular retests. Recent changes in the law in Britain mean that drivers face a retest if they accumulate six penalty points within two years of gaining their licence.

SANTA'S STAMP OF APPROVAL

Santa has a cracking time on this year's Christmas stamps, pulling crackers, stuffing them down the chimney, even riding one across the night sky. The Royal Mail is taking the opportunity to celebrate 150 years of the traditional cracker with five stamps that go on sale today. Each features Santa and the invention of a young confectioner, Tom Smith, who developed crackers as a novel way to wrap his products.

Traitor killed his lover by mistake

By Philip Delves Broughton

JOHN AMERY, the pro-Nazi traitor hanged in 1945 for trying to recruit British prisoners of war into a brigade to fight the Russians, descended into alcoholism after accidentally killing his girlfriend in the middle of the war, according to a book written by a former Nazi diplomat.

Amery, the son of Leo Amery, who was Secretary of State for India during the war and one of the Prime Minister's closest confidants, spent the war in Nazi-occupied Europe railing against the Soviet Union. He was prized by the Nazis who would present him at rallies as the son of one of Churchill's ministers.

He was captured in northern Italy in 1945 and returned to Britain. Along with William Joyce, who, as Lord Haw-Haw, broadcast Nazi propaganda from Berlin, he was sentenced and hanged at Wandsworth prison.

The accusation that Amery accidentally killed his girlfriend comes in a book by Reinhard Spitzy, published in West Germany in 1986, and published for the first time in this country, in English, today. It had not appeared in Britain before because many British publishers felt that the book, *How We Squandered the Reich*, reeked of anti-Semitism.

Spitzy, who was born into an aristocratic Austrian family, moved in high social circles in Britain when he worked as an assistant to Joachim von Ribbentrop, the German ambassador sent to London by the Nazis. He became engaged to a member of a West Country landowning family, although he never married her.

He was a member of the German delegation at the Munich conference of 1938 but claims to have become disillusioned with Hitler when he realised that the Führer was ready to engage in all-out war to fulfil his aims.

Spitzy spent the war working with the Abwehr, the German counter-intelligence unit. He disappeared to South America after the war, returning to Austria in 1957.

He ran into Amery on a train to Paris soon after the Englishman fell in with the Nazis in 1942. Spitzy describes him as "a real catch in propaganda terms ... frail, intelligent and typically English". Amery, who had separated from his first wife, was living in France at the time with a woman who was partly gypsy. Spitzy does not give the name of the woman. He met the couple one more time, but then did not see either of them until a party at the Foreign Press Club in Berlin in early 1944, where Amery was on his own and "paralytic".

Spitzy asked the guard looking after Amery why the Nazis' great propaganda tool was in such a state, and where his friend was. The guard took Spitzy to one side and told him that Amery had "taken more and more to the bottle" and that he was "plagued by dark depressions" about the worsening war situation.

The guard recounted, Spitzy writes, that a few weeks earlier, Amery and the woman had returned after a drunken night out and, after she had asked him for a headache pill, Amery "had mistakenly given her one of the poison capsules which he carried with him at all times to ensure a quick and relatively painless death in the event of his being abducted.

"When Amery woke up late the following morning and tenderly tried to rouse his beloved, believing her to be in a deep sleep, she was already dead and cold.

"Since that morning it was as if Amery's whole world had collapsed. He was no longer capable of anything and had turned totally to drink."

When Amery was finally caught by the Allies, the psychiatrists who examined him in his cell found that he was mentally ill.

Dr Piers Brendon, keeper of the Churchill Archives Centre at Churchill College, Cambridge, who has seen an advance copy of the book, said yesterday: "It is a shocking story — and came as a real surprise to me. Spitzy is an old Nazi and is highly tendentious in many respects. But I don't think he had any particular axe to grind against Amery and therefore I think the account is true."

☐ *How We Squandered The Reich* is published by Michael Russell, £19.95.

Amery: story told in former Nazi's book

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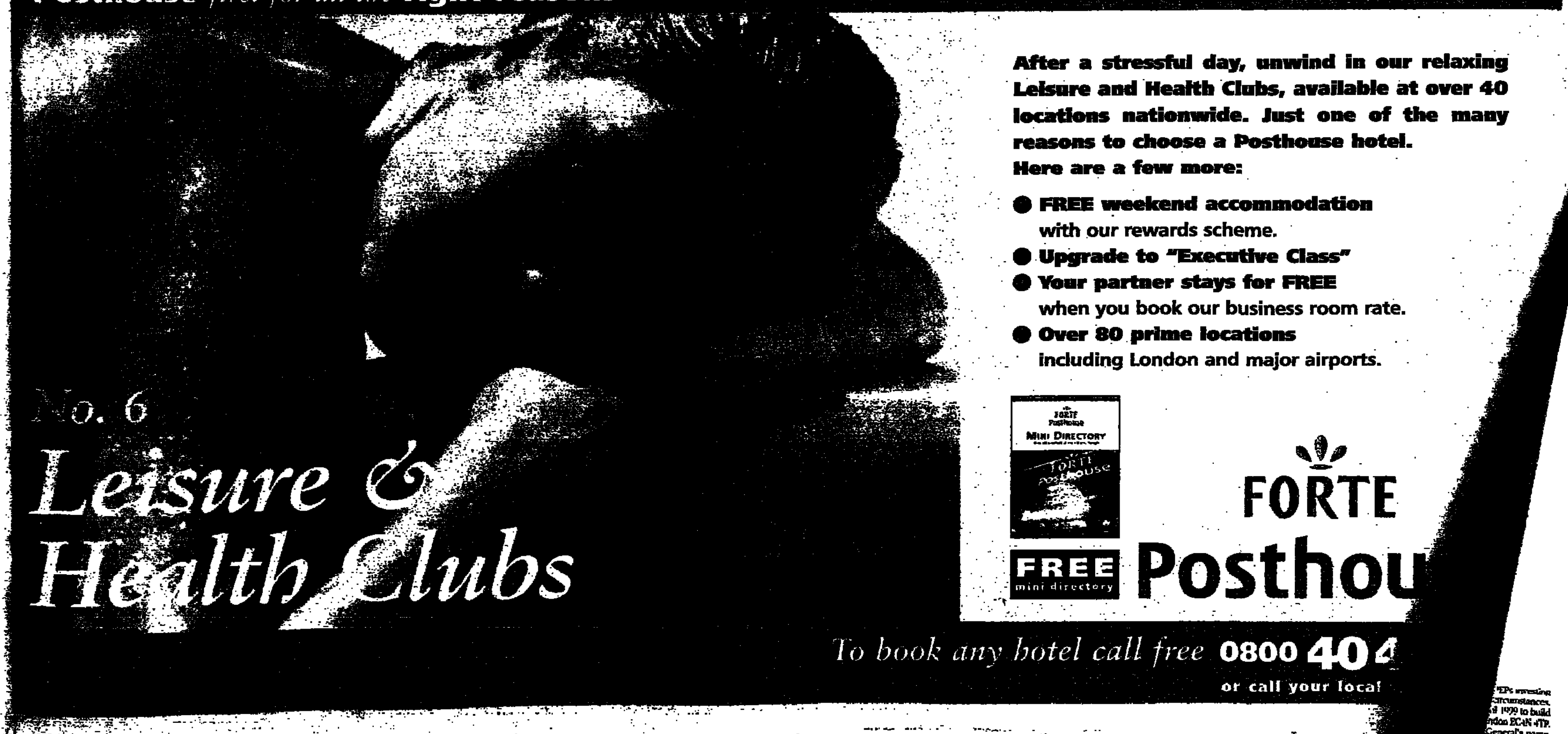

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Multiple cot deaths 'may be result of abuse'

Doctor says video surveillance may be only way of investigating families, reports **Mark Henderson**

FAMILIES where more than one child dies in a cot death or suffers an unexplained serious illness should be closely monitored for cases of severe child abuse, according to research published today by doctors who videotaped suspected abusers with their children.

The study, led by the cot death expert Professor David Southall of the North Staffordshire Hospital in Stoke-on-Trent, found that babies who mysteriously fell ill or died from sudden infant death syndrome (Sids) were sometimes the victims of sadistic violence by parents who did not fit the classic profile of a child abuser and evaded detection by doctors and social workers.

Of 39 suspected abusers filmed after their children were admitted to hospital, usually with breathing difficulties, 34 tried to harm their children when left alone. Five later admitted killing siblings of the children previously thought to have died of natural causes.

Four mothers admitted suffocating eight babies thought to have died of Sids and another confessed to poisoning her daughter with salt. The child's death had been attributed to gastro-enteritis.

The deaths of three other siblings thought to have died of Sids are being investigated and 34 parents have been convicted of offences ranging from assault to murder. All but one of the children were taken into care.

Parents were filmed trying to suffocate their children or poison them with disinfectants. One mother deliberately broke her three-month-old daughter's arm moments after being left alone and another tried to ram a toothbrush down her son's throat before trying to poison him.

The report emphasised that such abuse often went undetected because it was "inflicted by severely disturbed, deceitful but plausible parents" who convinced social workers and doctors they were not a threat to their children.

Many of the abusers are thought to suffer from Munchausen's syndrome by proxy, a psychiatric disorder whose victims inflict injury on others to draw attention to themselves. The nurse Beverly Allitt, who murdered four children in her care at Grantham and Kesteven General Hospital, suffered from the disorder.

Dr Keith Prowse, medical director of the North Staffordshire Hospital Trust, said the research showed child abuse was probably underestimated as a cause of cot death. "Many cot deaths are natural but when you see multiple cot deaths or near misses in a family you have to ask the question," he said yesterday.

Southall: accused of trying to entrap parents

"There are parents who claim to be caring and in fact dish out concealed and sadistic abuse which can be very difficult to detect. The children do not end up black and blue in casualty but with unexplained life-threatening illnesses."

Professor Southall recommends covert video surveillance as the only effective way of investigating families in which there have been suspicious infant deaths or illnesses.

Professor Southall's team carried out the study at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London and the North Staffordshire Hospital between 1986 and 1994. His work has often been controversial, with social workers and paediatricians accusing him of trying to entrap parents, using children as bait at considerable risk.

Colin Morley, a consultant paediatrician at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge, said: "If you suspected a man of sexually abusing a child you would not put him in a room alone with the girl and see what happened. Some of these children could have been protected earlier."

A spokesman for the North Staffordshire Hospital said parents were always monitored by two observers while alone with children and that a nurse would enter the child's room and police would be informed if an assault took place.

The report will be published tomorrow at a press conference in Stoke-on-Trent, and will also appear next week in *Pediatrics*, the journal of the American Academy of Pediatricians. *Pediatrics* will apologise in the issue for a 1972 article studying the deaths of several infants in a New York family which helped to create a multimillion-dollar market for monitoring devices. The mother in the case, later confessed to killing five of her children.

The issue will also carry findings indicating suspicious circumstances in a third of "near miss" Sids cases in a Massachussets hospital.

NIGEL BENNETT

The doctor's car after it was hoisted into the air with a tractor and smashed over a 200ft drop

Grab and smash as sports car goes flying

IT WAS a doctor's new MG sports car. Yesterday it had been recovered as a mangled heap after being pushed over a 200ft cliff when a man allegedly went berserk with a tractor.

A total of eight vehicles were damaged in the incident at a farm near Northcott Mouth Beach at Bude, Cornwall. Police had found the man setting fire to hay on the clifftop. He turned the tractor on them, chasing squad cars across a field and crashing into vehicles left by anglers.

Dr Neil Owen, of St Lawrence's psychiatric hospital at Bodmin, and a social worker tried to reason with the 34-year-old man, but he used the tractor equipped with front-loading spikes to grab the MG in the air and tip it over the cliffs.

The man, an unemployed farmer's son, was finally subdued with CS gas. A police spokesman said he had been detained under the Mental Health Act. An uncle of the man said: "He is a nice enough lad, but he suddenly he gets into these terrible fits of temper."

Drugs advice 'will cost millions'

GPs say NHS committee's recommendations on cholesterol-lowering treatment endanger moves to control costs. **Nigel Hawkes** reports

HEALTH authorities struggling to make ends meet say they have been given advice by an NHS committee that could add hundreds of millions of pounds to their bills.

If fully implemented, the Standing Medical Advisory Committee's advice on prescribing "statins", cholesterol-lowering drugs, issued in August, would cost £800 million a year. No additional money has been made available. The potential cost is far greater than the £300 million recently extracted from the Treasury by Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, to help the NHS to survive the winter.

Health authorities say the advice threatens their attempts to control soaring drug costs. "It was neither timely, effective, nor desirable," Mike Marchment, chief executive of Warwickshire Health Authority, said. "The committee didn't do a proper analysis, failed to present the evidence and jeopardised the treatment of high-risk patients who really get the greatest benefits from these drugs."

The committee recommends prescribing the drugs to one in 12 of the population between the ages of 35 and 69 — roughly 1.7 million people. The cost depends on which of the five statins available is prescribed. The most expensive, Pravastatin, made by Squibb, costs nearly £750 a year per patient at the highest dose rate.

Mr Marchment and colleagues wrote in the *British Medical Journal* earlier this month that following the advice, using the cheaper Simvastatin made by Merck, Sharp and Dohme, would cost the authority £8 million a year. "We are a typical authority and our patients represent 1 per cent of the whole population. So guessing a total of £800 million for the whole country would not be far out."

Nick Freemantle, of the Centre for Health Economics at York University, said that the drug itself was not unreasonably expensive, but the huge numbers targeted by the advice mean that overall costs were high. "In patients with angina and an elevated cholesterol level, or those who have had a heart attack, the benefits are good. For every 150 patients treated for one year, one death will be avoided."

But the benefits are far less clear-cut and may not even exist, he said, for those at lower risk, whom the committee also recommends should be treated. "It is very important that the high-risk group should be on these drugs," he said. "The danger is that they will get lost in the drive to treat a much larger group where the benefits aren't clear."

Mr Freemantle says that this is not a sensible way to carry out health policy. "We had doctors with their heads in their hands," he says. "They had been desperately trying to get the drug budget into balance when along came this advice and wrecked their efforts."

Dr Peter Enoch, a GP from Ilkeston, Deryshire, who chairs the committee, said he was "aggrieved" at the criticism, as his group's intention was not to encourage but to limit the prescribing of statins. "We were concerned that statins were likely to take off at an alarming rate, with little advice available to counter that of the drug companies. We were trying to discourage them from being used indiscriminately. Our advice is that if the funds are available, then this is the way to go about using the drugs.

"GPs should try other things first — diet, exercise, stopping smoking — and if that fails, then we outline three priority groups who should get the drugs." Dr Enoch suggests that the committee's critics have failed to read the accompanying documents, which make this clear.

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Officer had just finished training for a task she did with total equality with her male colleagues

Policewoman took off vest to do job better

WPC Mackay knew the risks of the emergency call, report **Michael Horsnell** and **Stewart Tendler**

WPC NINA MACKAY knew she was facing danger as she and her colleagues swung into Arthingworth Road in Stratford, East London, in their shielded personnel carrier. They were there to raid a flat occupied by a man in breach of his bail conditions.

The territorial support unit, equipped with body armour, CS gas spray and riot shields, is called in when officers need the back-up of specialist teams used to operating in dangerous situations.

At 8.20pm on Friday uniformed police called for assistance from 3 Area territorial support group in Bow. WPC Mackay had been attached to the unit for a year. The previous day she had completed training in the use of a hand-held hydraulic ram used to smash down doors during raids on the homes of suspects.

The units operate a policy of complete equality and women are neither encouraged nor discouraged to join teams that are in the front line.

WPC Mackay's team arrived ing outside the flat shortly after 8.30pm. Wearing heavy body armour, crash helmets and armed with riot shields, they moved to the front door of the flat. At 9.05pm WPC Mackay, wearing goggles and thick gloves, began to operate the hydraulic ram, known as the Enforcer. But because her body armour prevented her getting a good swing on the ram, she stopped for a moment and removed it.

Within minutes of resuming her work, the door to the flat crashed down. What happend next is unclear, but normally the ram operator stands aside to allow other officers to rush forward and detain the suspect. However, the ram operator can be in danger if the ram knocks the door flat, allowing a suspect to rush forward and strike an officer.

As the door was smashed open, WPC Mackay received stab wounds in the abdomen. She collapsed on the floor and while some officers detained the suspect others gave her first aid.

They carried her to a nearby police car which took her to Newham General Hospital where surgeons fought for more than an hour to save her life before she died at 10.25pm.

In Arthington Street, floral tributes to the murdered policewoman built up throughout the weekend. Locals said that Magdi Elgizouli, the 30-year-old Somalian immigrant charged with her murder, was frequently seen in the area carrying bottles of alcohol.

Melodie Dunbar, 28, who lives almost opposite, the flat where WPC Mackay was stabbed, said: "He was always walking past drunk. On one occasion he had to get a worker at a building site next to where he was staying to retrieve a bottle of brandy that he had somehow left there. Another night he was standing outside the flat unable to get in for about four hours, banging on the door, and someone downstairs threw something at him."

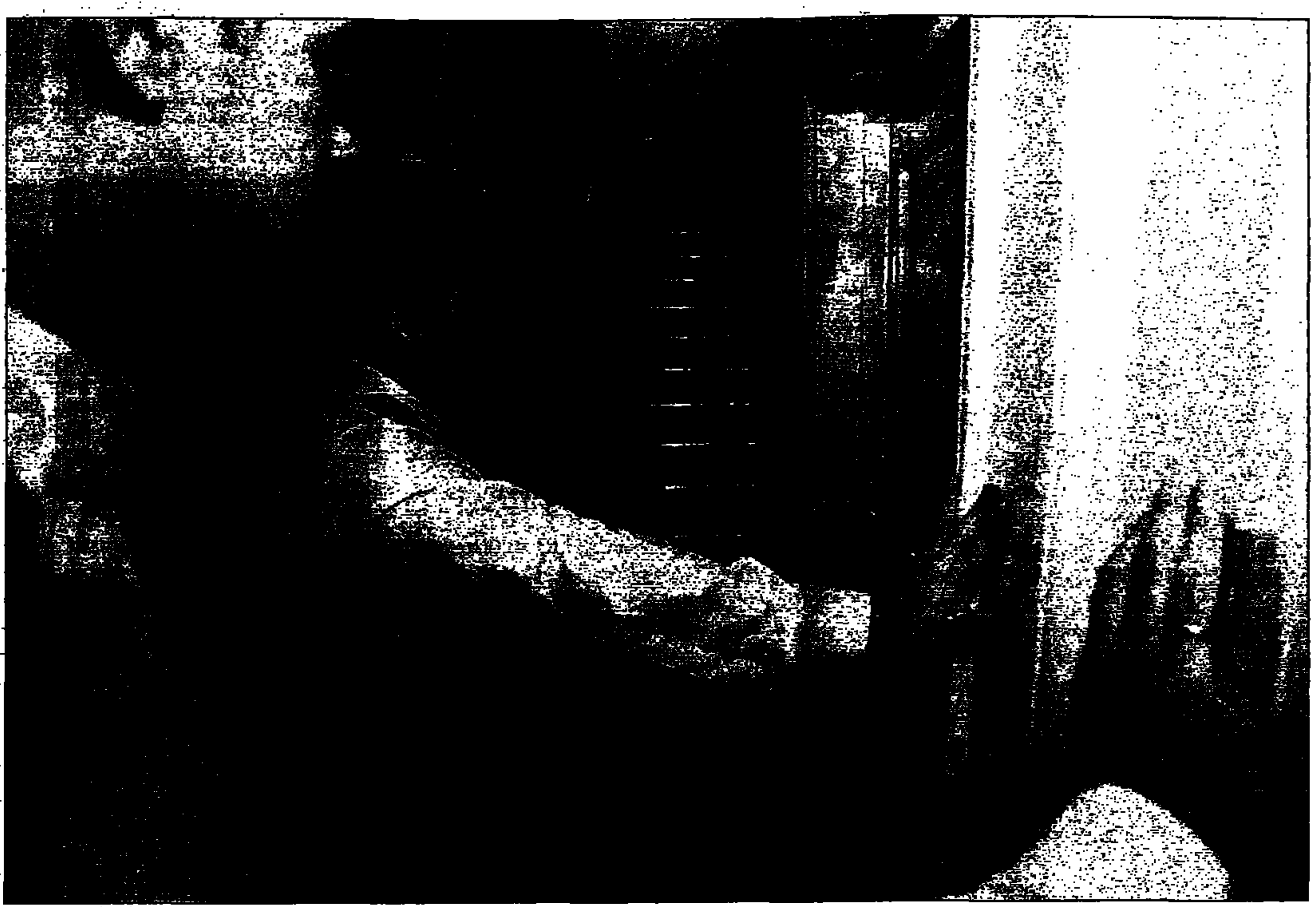
The Guinness Trust building where the suspect was staying with a friend is run by Newham Health Authority for people with disabilities hoping to reintegrate into society.

Other residents said they were angered and alarmed at how "care in the community" patients are housed in first-floor flats above accommodation for severely handicapped people requiring 24-hour attention and opposite homes for elderly people requiring warden care.

Mike Cohen, chief executive of the Guinness Trust, said checks were in place to monitor tenants' behaviour and their guests. He said that the health authority aimed to give tenants as much independence as possible because of the nature of the project.

Floral tributes outside the murder scene yesterday

A chief constable suspended from duty over "serious" allegations of misconduct has been ordered to stay away from his office for four months until the investigation is completed. Francis Wilkinson, 50, who heads the Gwent force in South Wales, is at the centre of complaints over the handling of a £40 speeding ticket issued to a local county councillor and the awarding of contracts. The allegations against him were made by his deputy and an assistant chief constable. Mr Wilkinson faces dismissal if the inquiry *rules that he has abused his* position.



Officers raiding suspects' homes need protection that is not too bulky to stop them working quickly and effectively, says the Police Federation

Forces search for wearable armour that can turn knife and stop bullets

By Richard Ford

THE death of Nina Mackay highlights the difficulty the police have had in providing officers with flexible and comfortable body armour.

Many forces have heavy-duty armour that can be worn at specific incidents including sieges but the Police Federation has been demanding equipment that can be worn by officers throughout an eight-hour shift.

As a member of a Territorial Support Squad, a frontline group of officers who support colleagues on dangerous operations, she would have had access to heavy-duty body armour worn outside her uniform. Her unit would also have been equipped with Nato helmets, shields and CS spray.

Officers have complained that the armour weighs too much, is cumbersome and restricts their ability to move quickly in dangerous situations.

There are two different types of armour. One provides protection against knives, weighs about ten pounds and is highly rigid. Another provides protection against both bullets and knives and is slightly more flexible.

It was not clear yesterday which bit of heavy body armour WPC Mackay was wearing when she arrived at the flat in Stratford, east London. Members of the Police Federation were in no doubt that she had removed it because it would have been too cumbersome for her to operate the ram effectively. Mike Bennett, chairman of the Metropolitan Police Federation, said last night: "Wearing heavy armour and trying to operate this kind of equipment, especially in confined spaces, is very difficult. It restricts an officer's movement".

In an attempt to meet officers' complaints about the weight of the heavy armour and their reluctance to wear it over uniforms, police forces have tried to develop lighter and more flexible armour that can be worn under tunics.

The Metropolitan Police has spent £7 million developing Metvest, body armour that can be worn under tunics but this too has had problems. Three years of research and tests went into the design of the vest and by the end of this year all 17,500 operational officers officers would have been issued with one. The Metvest, manufactured in Holland, weighs 3lb and costs £200 but it is not compulsory for officers to wear it. The vest is is made of ceramic plating and layer upon layer of a specially-designed material called Kevlar, developed by Lycra manufacturers DuPont.

The Metvest is designed to protect against knife thrusts equivalent to a blade travelling at up to 6 metres a second and offers protection against ammunition from revolvers and automatic handguns. It protects an officer's entire chest and back against attack.

Although more flexible than heavy armour, officers have complained that it makes them sweat heavily, and the first batch prepared for women was found to have a design fault in the stitching around the bust. The fault meant that the vest did not provide full protection from a knife attack and Scotland Yard is to start exchanging them on November 3.

The Metropolitan police force hoped to be able to profit from the design by selling to other forces nationally and internationally.

MEMORIES OF EMBASSY VICTIM

The family of the murdered WPC Yvonne Fletcher, right, who was gunned down outside the Libyan Embassy in London in 1984, said they planned to write a letter of sympathy to the family of WPC Mackay.

Queenie Fletcher, 64, said: "When I first heard the news, I was struck by coincidences. Nina was the same age as Yvonne and enjoyed doing the job she wanted to do.

"They seemed in the same mould. It is very sad and devastating for the family. We know what they are going through." WPC Fletcher was killed by a burst of automatic gunfire when on crowd control at a protest outside the Libyan Embassy.

Mrs Fletcher was speaking from her home in the village of Semley on the Wiltshire border with Dorset. With her husband, Tim, also 64, she attended morning service at St Catherine's at nearby Sedgehill, where the Rev Peter Ridley spoke of WPC Mackay and asked for supporting prayers for police officers throughout Britain.

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Sale uncovers Boleyn book

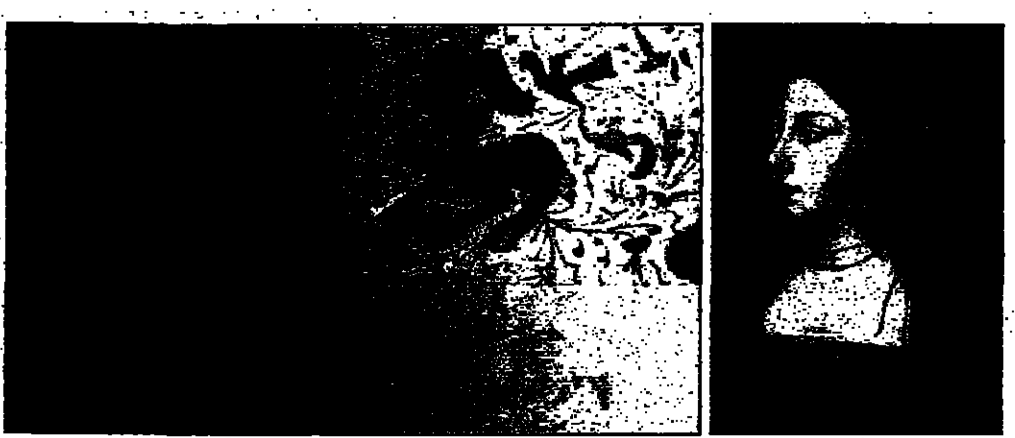
Dalya Alberge on a poignant inscription left by the doomed love of Henry VIII

A BOOK of hours, signed and inscribed by Anne Boleyn, has been discovered among a collection of books the owner wanted valued to see if they were worth selling.

The book, containing the prayers and offices of the canonical hours, dates from the 15th century. Anne is believed to have written in it in the 1520s, when King Henry VIII was courting her and trying to divorce Catherine of Aragon.

Kay Sutton, manuscript consultant to Christie's book department, said that when she was shown the book, "I had to sit down. It's not been known before. One of Christie's clients in Europe asked us to value some books with a view to whether they were sufficiently interesting to offer for sale. They hadn't realised the significance of this one. When we saw it we were bowled over."

She added: "While it is not unusual to find ownership notes or inscriptions in personal prayerbooks, it would be hard to find one more poignant than the words written by Anne Boleyn beneath the miniature of the Last Judgment." Under an image of Christ on a rainbow ready to judge the dead arising from the ground, she wrote: "Le temps viendra" — the time will come.



The inscription and signature of Anne Boleyn on the page depicting the Last Judgment

Ms Sutton said: "Who knows what she meant by that? But it's one of these things you find your mind running away with." She believes it was written before Anne married, after her period in France. "Anne was fluent in French. Some of the love letters between her and Henry VIII were in French. One is tempted to think that this was not just a pious reminder of her eventual death, since this was the period when Henry was pursuing her and trying to divorce Catherine of Aragon. It was during this period when, as a 'fresh young damsel', her wit and grace first beguiled the King."

The manuscript is expected to fetch around £300,000 on November 26. Although Anne's hand appears on two other books of hours, those examples pale against this one. Ms Sutton said: "Another is a printed book in Hever Castle, her family home in Kent, where she signed her name. But it had been clipped by a careless binder, so the signature isn't intact in the way it is here.

"In the British Library is a book of hours which she signed in one margin and Henry VIII in another. But, presumably after her death and fall from favour, her name was entirely removed and attempts made to erase her inscription from the page. This manuscript is the only book known where her personal annotation survives intact."

The manuscript is a particularly lavish example. It was made in Bruges for an English owner during the middle of the 15th century, perhaps by the group known only as the Masters of the Gold Scroll. Devotional texts are accompanied by jewels of miniatures.

"The book is likely to have been in England for many years before Anne wrote in it," Ms Sutton said. "It remained there for at least several decades after her death."

The book was later owned by George, Lord Cobham, one of the peers who tried Anne in 1536 and found her guilty of adultery and treason. She was beheaded on May 19; a day later, Henry was betrothed to Jane Seymour. How the book found its way into Lord Cobham's possession is unclear. It also bears the inscription of Elisabeth Seymour, who is thought to have been related to Jane.

ALAN WELLER

The manuscript features devotional texts and colourful miniatures

Shops fail to take stock of ethical trading

By Kathryn Knight

SUPERMARKETS have done little to fulfil a promise to ensure they are trading ethically, despite drawing up guidelines, a report by Christian Aid claims today.

While many of the leading ten chains, which have a combined annual turnover of £52 billion, have agreed to a set of principles aimed at avoiding exploitation of Third World workers, most have not implemented any policies. The worst offender, the charity claims, is Marks & Spencer, which has refused to have anything to do with the campaign. Tesco, Sainsbury and Safeway have made the best start to the ethical challenge.

Last year the charity challenged the main supermarkets to improve conditions for workers in Third World countries. Their research found women poisoned by pesticides on grape plantations, workers who pickle fruit earning poverty wages, and people packed into tiny, squalid housing on tea plantations.

A year on, six out of ten supermarkets have adopted a new code of conduct and agreed in principle to external verification. But none has reached the stage where its policies were making a difference overseas, the report says.

Sainsbury, Safeway, Waitrose and Co-op have joined the Ethical Trading initiative to look at the conditions of workers overseas. Marks & Spencer, Morrisons and Somerfield, however, all declined to take part in the survey, saying they had their own standards.

Andrew Sims, for Christian Aid, said it was time to put theory into practice. "There is definitely a move forward and it shows that consumers can make a difference but all the supermarkets have yet to face the challenge of turning words into real improvements for workers on the ground," he said.

"We want an industry-wide common approach outlining basic conditions so that when the common man walks off the street into a supermarket they can be confident that the goods they are buying have not been imported by exploitation."

Marks & Spencer said it had not taken part in the Christian Aid survey but had its own ethical guidelines. "We employ a team of over 60 people to check what's happening with our suppliers."

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Villeneuve brakes late and takes the inside line, left, but Schumacher

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Au pair faces her toughest day in court

From Tunku Varadarajan
in Cambridge
Massachussetts

LOUISE WOODWARD, the 19-year-old British au pair *charged with murdering* a baby in her care, can today expect the most gruelling hours of her trial when the prosecution subjects her to its final cross-examination.

The trial is expected to conclude today, with the prosecutor, Gerard Leone, asking Miss Woodward: did she shake, slam or in any way harm eight-month-old Matthew Eappen? In response to questions last week from Andrew Good, her defence attorney, Miss Woodward, from Cheshire, has denied that she ever treated Matthew violently. After her kindly treatment by Mr Good, Mr Leone is expected to go for the jugular.

The jury will hear concluding arguments from the prosecution and the defence, before *receiving instructions from* Judge Hiller B. Zobel. A verdict could come as early as *tomorrow morning.*

Public opinion in the Boston area, previously hostile to Miss Woodward, has swung behind her. As the trial began, "*She did it*" was the common refrain. After Miss Woodward's initial testimony, — *which was powerful and moving* — these certainties have undergone a seismic shift.

A young woman in a bar summed up the view of many: "I feel pretty ashamed of myself. I'm a philosophy student and I've got to question the way I bayed with crowd."

A research student from Canada who had watched *Miss Woodward testify said* her opinion had swung from an assumption of guilt to *questioning how such a* charge could have been brought. "There are just so *many doubts.*"

There is embarrassment that an American town might have ganged up unfairly on a callow girl from Britain. "She would have been lynched around here," said a barman. A customer muttered that everyone had been "*wrong about* that kid". There is, of course, also great sympathy for the *other "kid" — the dead child.*

Fighting on the beaches: Campbell Voullaire at the point where the sea stormed ashore. English Nature *has abandoned the beachhead*

The day the tide came in to stay

Nature chiefs who abandoned flooded land have met a storm of disapproval, **Simon de Bruxelles** reports

THE retreat has been sounded over a little bit of England after the forces of authority decided not to fight the force of nature. The decision to allow the sea to invade ancient pastures has *outraged a tiny community.*

For centuries, the people of Porlock have maintained a *long shingle bank which acts* as a natural barrier on the north Cornish coast. When a gap formed, they plugged it to prevent the salt water destroying low-lying fields. In 1990, the area was designated as a site of special scientific interest; its unique collection of flora and fauna includes more than 40 species of spider.

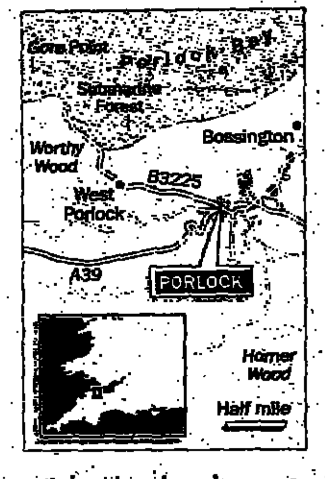
Then the village, which featured in *Lorna Doone,* was *struck by disaster last* year. One of the most violent storms to hit the Bristol Channel this century breached the bank, allowing the sea to inundate fields beyond. A permanent lagoon formed and the rare plants and reed beds *died in* the saline waters. Local residents expected that approval of *works to restore the shingle* bank would be a formality.

Instead, English Nature *and the Environment* Agency have said that nature should be allowed to take its course. The coastal path has been diverted inland and an 18th-century system of culverts, which kept out the sea but allowed fresh water to drain away, has been partially demolished. English Nature hopes the sea will create a *salt marsh which will attract* many species of birds.

Porlock's residents include *the novelist* Margaret Drabble and her husband, the biographer Michael Holroyd. Opponents of the retreat are being led into battle by a former RAF staff officer. Every day Campbell Voullaire, 76, surveys the shingle bank *through his* Zeiss field glasses. "In the past six weeks alone the *breach has enlarged considerably,*" he said. "The shingle lies on a layer of clay and each time the tide retreats, the water rushes out like a miniature Niagara, scouring a larger hole.

"We have been pressing for a year to have it restored. Each week that passes means the bill will be bigger and the *task more difficult. The trouble* is that quangos like English Nature are not *democratically accountable.* It is very un-British that unelected officials should be allowed to decide what happens to our countryside."

Joan Loraine, owner of Greencombe, one of Somerset's best-loved gardens, *once* looked out from her hillside home across green fields *flanking the Bristol Channel.* She said: "It was such a beautiful view, and now it is *being destroyed.*"



English Nature admitted that the outcome of the "managed retreat" was impossible to predict. It could leave nothing but mudflats between the high and low water marks, as elsewhere along the coast. Mike Edgington, the conservation officer responsible *for* Porlock, said: "In philosophical terms, this is one of the hardest decisions we have had to make. Usually our job is fairly clear: it is to preserve what is already there. But coastal systems are not static and we hope that nature will replace what we have with something better.

"The ridge had been patched up for many years but, from the point of view of *coastal management, that* was not a sensible course. After a similar breach was *repaired in 1990, officers* agreed that sooner or later the sea was going have its way *unless a large amount of* money was spent, and that no further steps should be taken to stop it. We have made our judgment. We don't know what will happen. Some experts even believe the ridge may well reform a little behind *its* present position."

Rail crash lawyers claim compensation for all

LAWYERS acting for victims of last month's Southall train crash are *demanding* compensation for all passengers on the train.

More than 100 claims for compensation are expected to be filed after the crash, in which seven people died. The insurers of Great Western, the operator of the Swansea-*London train,* were *yesterday* urged to agree a standard payment, possibly £5,000, for all passengers, thought to exceed 170. Lawyers claim that they all suffered physical or psychological damage.

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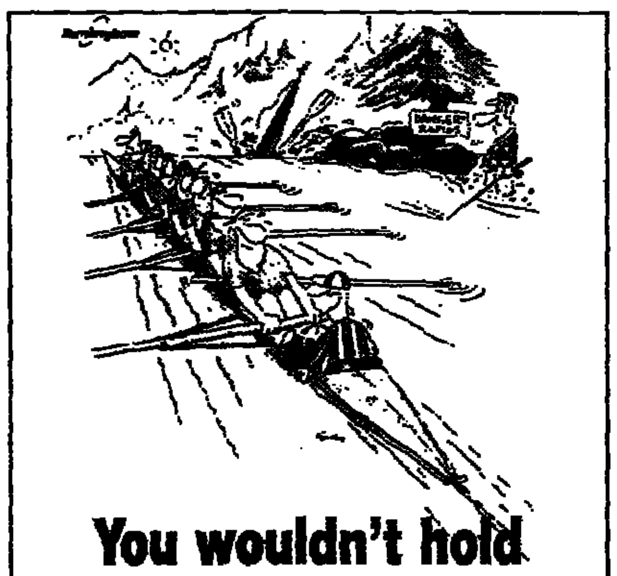

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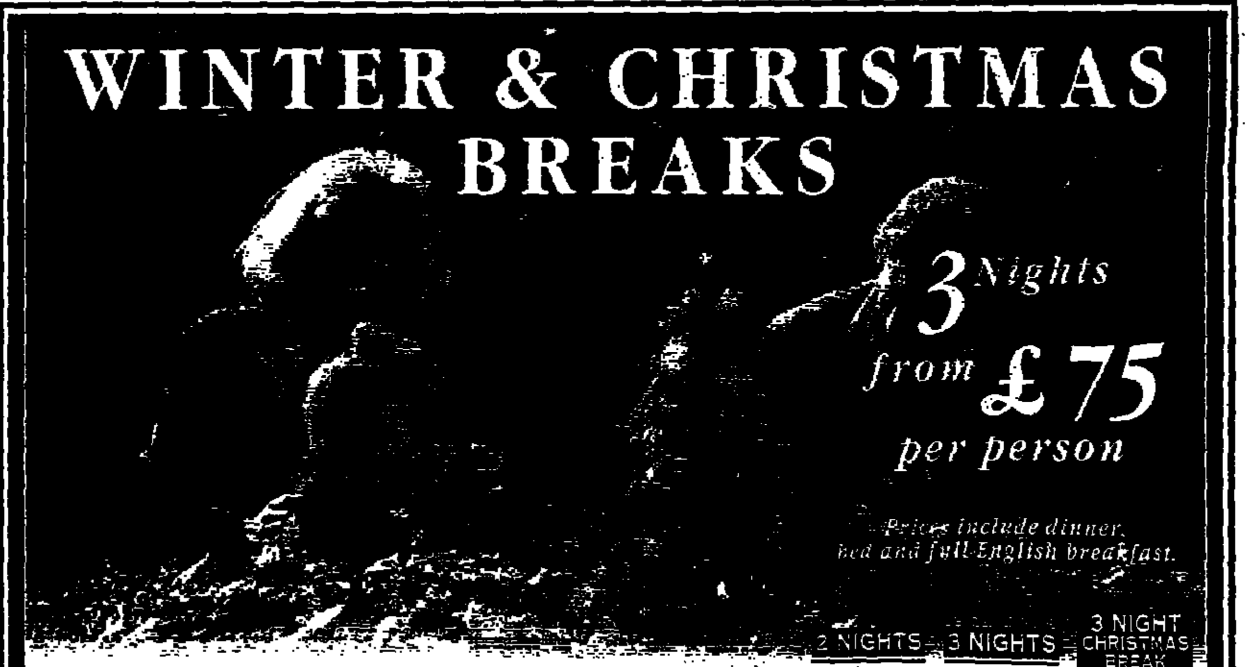

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Blair urged to spell out 'great evil of abortion'

By Ian Murray, Ruth Gledhill and Mark Henderson

THE Archbishop of Westminster urged the Prime Minister yesterday to help to change the hearts and minds of those who doubt that abortion is "a great evil".

Cardinal Basil Hume, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, particularly criticised sections of the Labour Party for being pro-abortion. He spoke out after joining one of 78 human chains formed to protest on the eve of the 30th anniversary of the Abortion Act. "My message to Tony Blair would be 'You are a man of integrity, you are an honest man, and you see things clearly," Cardinal Hume said. "I would have thought you should give leadership within your party, and try to convince them that abortion is wrong and that we ought, as a nation, to do something about it.' "

Referring to the defenders of abortion in the Labour Party, Cardinal Hume said: "I think that it is generally agreed that we can't expect very much from this particular Parliament and I think that is very sad. Abortion is wrong, whether it's done in the backstreet or in a clinic.

"The point of the debate is different: to decide at which moment human life begins. I'm quite convinced, as many people are, that at the moment of conception there is human life. It is given as an axiom that you must never take innocent human life."

Nevertheless, he said he did not think it possible to get the Abortion Act repealed as the present Parliament was very pro-abortion. "We have to work to change minds and hearts so people come to realise that abortion is a great evil, just as it was very slowly people came to realise that slavery was a great evil. Slavery was generally accepted. Now no one would want to go back to it."

In a pastoral letter, read out at all masses in the Westminster diocese, the cardinal said: "It is a grave scandal that since 1967 nearly five million abortions have taken place. As a nation we should all hang our heads in shame."

The new intake of MPs is being lobbied hard by campaigners both for and against abortion to find someone prepared to bring in a Private Member's Bill to change the present law. The anti-abortionists want the Act repealed. Those in favour want it to be widened to allow abortion on demand and they want the operation available everywhere under the National Health Service.

More than 177,000 abortions were carried out in England and Wales last year, equivalent to 13 for every 1,000 women. The Brook Advisory Centres, which offer sex advice to young people, estimate that 10 per cent of teenage girls have a termination before the age of 20. The Abortion Law Reform Society believes that one woman in four has one at some stage in her life.

Jack Scarisbrick, chairman of the anti-abortion charity Life, said the Act was responsible for the "utter degeneration of society" through the "throw-away attitude" to life it had engendered.

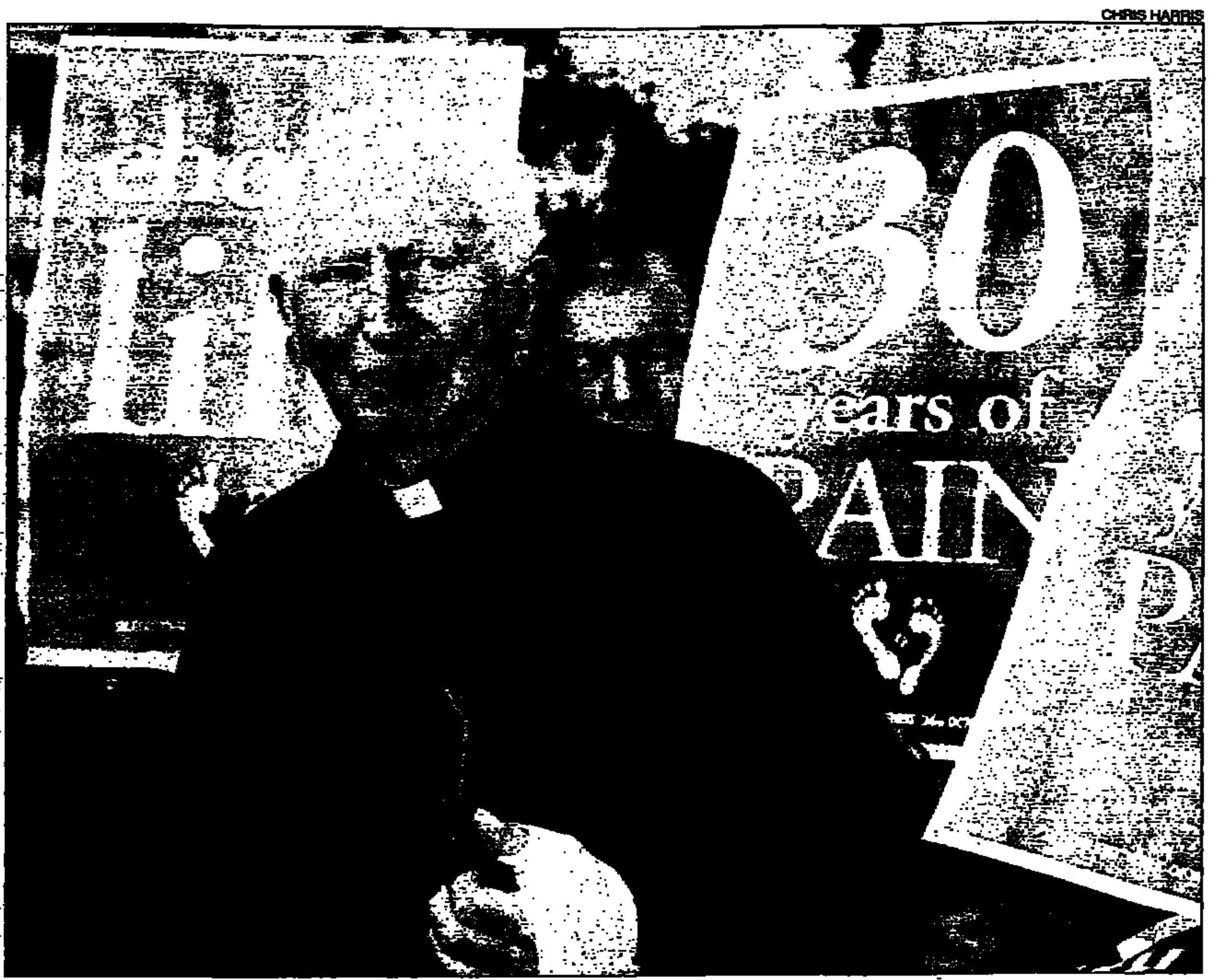
The anti-abortion movement was given a boost by a Gallup opinion poll, published yesterday in the *Sunday Telegraph*, showing that six out of ten women want the time limit for abortions to be cut from 24 weeks of pregnancy to ten. The poll was mainly conducted before the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists claimed that a foetus might be able to feel pain from 26 weeks.

More than half of those surveyed, and 59 per cent of women, were in favour of a tightening of the law to cut the limit to ten weeks. While 68 per cent of women and 57 per cent of men believed that abortion should be allowed "in particular circumstances", only 21 per cent of women wanted abortion on demand.

A spokeswoman for the Abortion Law Reform Society said she was surprised by the poll findings. "All the current polls we have seen show at least 80 per cent support for abortion right across the board," she said.

HOW THE LAW HAS EVOLVED

- **1861: Offences Against the Person Act makes it illegal induce an abortion.**
- **1936: the Abortion Law Reform Association is formed with the goal of changing the law to allow doctors to perform safe abortions.**
- **1938: Dr Aleck Bourne is acquitted after inviting police to prosecute him for abortion on a 14-year-old rape victim. This establishes case law allowing abortions to protect a patient's health.**
- **1966: MP David Steel introduces a Private Member's Bill to legalise abortion if two doctors agree pregnancy would put a mother's health at risk, or if there is a serious risk of handicap to the child.**
- **1967: the Abortion Act becomes law.**
- **1968: the Act comes into effect on April 27.**
- **1974: the Lane Committee is set up to the review the Act. It suggests an upper limit of 24 weeks.**
- **1990: Human Fertilization and Embryology Act confirms upper time limit of 24 weeks in law.**


CHRIS HARRIS

Cardinal Hume in London, where 3,500 anti-abortion protesters held a "silent walk of witness" yesterday

Opponents of 30 years ago believe they were right

By Mark Henderson

THE leading parliamentary campaigners for and against the 1967 Abortion Act still believe they were right 30 years ago and point to developments since the Act to back their positions.

David Steel, now Lord Steel of Aikwood, the Liberal MP who introduced the Private Member's Bill in March 1966, said yesterday that he thought the Act remained the most balanced piece of abortion legislation in Europe. "The law as it stands strikes a balance between the right of the foetus to life and of the woman to abundant life," he said.

"You will find critics on both sides of the law wanting to make it easier or harder to get an abortion but my advice would be to leave well alone."

He said the Act had removed "the scourge of criminal abortions and self-induced abortions" and statistics indicated that Britain had a relatively low rate of abortion.

"Critics who point to five million abortions saying it is too many never note that our rate is lower than Roman Catholic France, where there is a woman's right to choose until 12 weeks, and half that of the USA, where it is a far more controversial issue."

He said the Bill, which was the seventh attempt to reform the abortion law, had been passed only because of an abnormally long parliamentary session after the 1966 general election.

The Roman Catholic Conservative MP Norman St John-Stevas, now Lord St John of Fawsley, said he had organised opposition to the legislation in Parliament after an encounter with Enoch Powell.

"I remember the second reading was passed very comfortably by nearly 200 votes and as I was going through the no lobby Enoch Powell turned to me and said, 'Where are the Romans?' " he said.

"So it fell to me to organise the Romans, and later in the year the Romans appeared on the scene." He said the Act had fulfilled his fears at the time and had had a damaging effect on society.

"I felt it would lead to abortion on demand and I think developments have shown these fears were entirely justified. If anything I feel more strongly about it now than I did then. All the things we prophesied about abortion have come true."

McAleese heads for tarnished triumph in Dublin

By Martin Fletcher and Audrey Magee

MARY McALEESE looks set to become Ireland's first northern president on Thursday, but it will be a joyless victory.

The election has been one of the most poisonous in the Republic's history and Dr McAleese's hopes of "building bridges" to Ulster Unionists have been reduced to rubble.

Weekend polls for two Dublin newspapers gave Dr McAleese, the ruling Fianna Fail party's candidate, leads of 13 and 9 per cent over Fine Gael's Mary Banotti, despite the recent furore over her alleged Sinn Fein sympathies. The other three candidates — the singer Dana (Rosemary Brown), Labour's Adi Roche and the maverick independent Derek Nally — trailed far behind.

Dana's effort will almost certainly end in defeat on Thursday, but her campaign has not been futile. She alone among the candidates has expressed forthright views and she has tweaked more than a few a Roman Catholic consciences. The 46-year-old singer has rallied those who oppose the Dublin "liberal agenda" that has brought divorce, contraception, homosexuality and abortion (in very restricted circumstances) to this most Catholic of European countries.

This was supposed to be a non-political election, but that all changed with the leaking of three Department of Foreign Affairs documents suggesting that Dr McAleese, a Catholic nationalist from Belfast, supported Sinn Fein.

Dr McAleese issued strong denials and weathered the storm — she appears actually to have gained support as a victim of dirty tricks — but the longer term damage is substantial. "Building Bridges" was her campaign slogan, but she could well prove the most divisive of Ireland's eight presidents.

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Lords debate end of the peer show

Historic ceremonies need cutting, says Labour, but the traditionalists will today challenge the motives for change. **James Landale** reports

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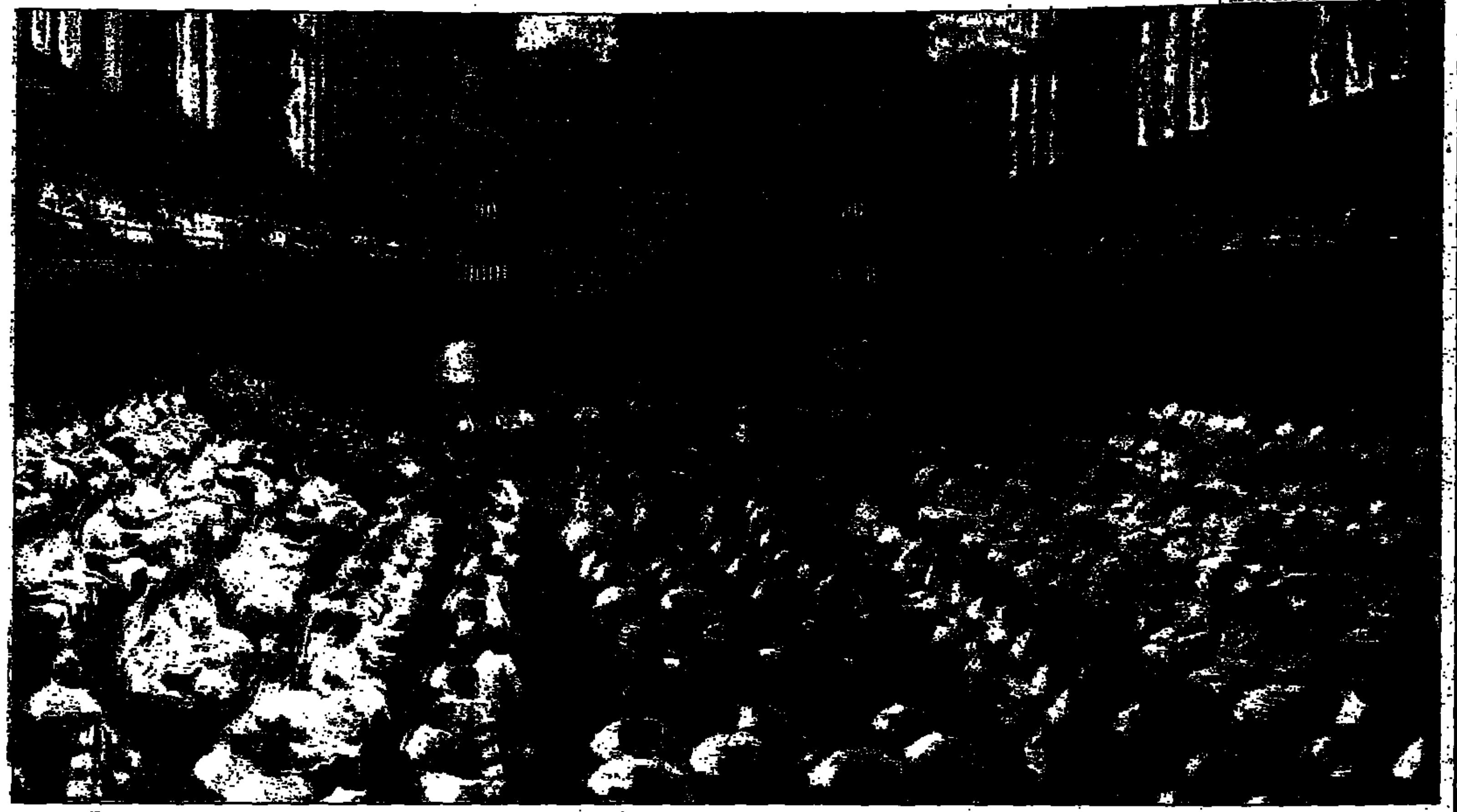

Full House: peers in regalia at the 1912 State Opening of Parliament. There are more than 50 new peers awaiting admission this year

FOR some it is sublime, for others it is ridiculous. Today the ermined pageantry of the House of Lords faces a trimming, as peers are urged to overhaul the 370-year-old introduction ceremony for new members.

Lord Richard, leader of the Government in the Lords, will tell the House that the ceremony takes up too much time and has become outdated. A chief target is the practice of new peers having to sit, stand, doff their hats, bow, and sit three times in succession.

The ceremony takes place at the beginning of parliamentary business at 2.30pm, and lasts an average of 11 minutes, depending on the age and agility of the peer. A logjam of more than 50 new peers waiting to enter the Lords is forcing officials to breach convention and introduce more than two a day.

James I: introduced ceremony used today

However, some Tory peers are accusing the Government of trying to streamline the ceremony to pave the way for a massive influx of new Labour life peers, under wider reforms of the Lords. Some traditionalists oppose any changes on principle.

Lord Richard, who represents the Lords in the Cabinet, will formally move "an humble address" to the Queen asking permission for the Lords to consider changes. Technically, the Queen still appoints peers and has to be consulted. With her permission, detailed proposals could be put before the House early next year.

Much of the ceremonial was invented by James I to give dignity to what had become a rather unseemly process after he handed out a large number of peerages for cash. A new member is led in by Black Rod, the administrative head in the Lords, who wears black breeches and tights and polished patent leather buckled shoes and carries a stick. He is followed by Garter King of Arms, a royal official, who wears an heraldic tabard.

The new peer, accompanied by his two sponsors, hands his Writ of Summons to the Lord Chancellor. Garter hands over the peer's "Patent", a formal letter from the Queen. A Lords' clerk then reads out the writ and patent in full, and the peer swears the oath of allegiance and signs the Roll of the Lords.

After a quick tour of the chamber, Garter leads the new peer and his sponsors to his seat. Three times, they sit, stand, doff their hats and bow to the Lord Chancellor and sit down again. Garter whispers the commands. All five people then process out of the chamber. On his way out, the new peer shakes the Lord Chancellor's hand, at which point peers cry: "Hear, hear".

Lord Richard's personal view is that the hat-doffing ceremony and one of the readings could be dropped. He says: "I suspect that many new peers find the present ceremony embarrassing.

"The length of the ceremony, and the limitation on numbers introduced each day, means that new peers often have to wait months before taking up their seats. We need a dignified ceremony with real meaning which combines the strength of tradition with the needs of a modern legislature."

Lord Denham, the former Tory chief whip in the Lords who led a campaign against changes in the 1970s, will again voice caution. He says: "New peers enjoy it because it signifies their arrival at the House of Lords. Tradition and colour are rather nice."

Lord St John of Fawsley, the former Leader of the Commons, believes that some of the ceremony should be modernised: "The taking of one's seat in the Lords is a dignified part of the constitution. It should be solemn and impressive, but it could be shortened with advantage." The hat-doffing, he said, was "rather absurd".

Lord Hailsham of Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor, says: "They should leave the ceremony well alone. I personally rather like the introduction because you get an opportunity to see the new peers. But at my age you don't really remember them even if you have seen them."

Until the death of Henry V, the monarch created peerages in the Lords, personally handing over sword, cap and coronet. By the time of James I, the ceremony took place in private investitures in a royal palace. James was notorious for flooding the Lords with new peers, many of whom had paid for their titles. He sold 37 in two years.

Such was the public outrage, in 1621 James was embarrassed into creating the procedures which have remained broadly intact until now. Most important for the King, the new ceremony removed the need for him to be present.

MPs return to a busy schedule in revamped House

By James Landale

MPs RETURN to Westminster today to begin a packed parliamentary schedule that includes three by-elections, a series of major government Bills and a controversial debate on hunting.

They will find themselves in a revamped Palace of Westminster, with ladies' lavatories in the voting lobbies and a unisex hair salon in place of the previous barber's shop.

Despite having had a three-month holiday, MPs will spend only four days at Westminster this week, taking Friday off to spend the day in their constituencies. The first big event will be Gordon Brown's statement to MPs today to clear up the confusion over the Government's policy on joining a single European currency.

But the focus will soon shift to the Beckenham by-election, prompted by Piers Merchant's resignation over his affair with an 18-year-old researcher. There is growing speculation that one of the former Tory ministers who lost their seats in May, such as Michael Portillo or Malcolm Rifkind, will stand.

The writ for Beckenham has not yet been moved but the Tories are expected to fix a date this week. Party sources said they had not ruled out holding it on the same date as the Winchester by-election on November 20. Voters in Winchester have to go to the polls again after the High Court's decision to annul the general election result because of ballot paper irregularities. A third by-election will take place on November 6 in Paisley, where the Labour general election victor, Gordon McMaster, committed suicide.

This autumn there will be no traditional State Opening of Parliament and Queen's Speech, which took place after the general election. MPs will, however, consider a "green Budget" from Gordon Brown in November. Despite its name, the document refers not to environmental matters but will instead give pointers to the Chancellor's actual Budget in the spring.

MPs will be lobbied hard before the second reading debate on November 28 of a Private Member's Bill aimed at banning hunting with hounds. Although all MPs are being given a free vote, Michael Foster (Lab, Worcester), who introduced the Bill, is hoping that Labour's new ranks will give the measure overwhelming support.

There is still a question mark over whether the government whips will allow the Bill to die in its later stages. They tried to persuade Mr Foster not to bring the Bill and are keen to avoid any delay to the Government's main legislation. Measures expected to be put before Parliament soon include the Education Bill, aimed at raising school standards, and the Crime and Disorder Bill, designed to combat juvenile crime and speed up sentencing. Bills introducing Welsh and Scottish devolution are expected in November and December.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Earliest risers are in the pipeline

People who live within and around the M25 are the country's earliest risers, according to research. They get up an average half an hour earlier than people in other English and Welsh towns and a full hour before most country dwellers.

According to an analysis by 14 water companies of what time customers start tapping into the supply, the earliest risers live in Surrey, where average water demand is reached by 6.15am.

Pollution study

Scientists in Edinburgh have begun a five-year study into pollution particles, believed to be linked to over 10,000 deaths a year. Air samples in London and Edinburgh will be compared to see how different chemical make-ups affect health.

Youth curfew

Twelve boys and a girl, aged six to 15, were returned to their homes on Saturday in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, in a police drive to clear youngsters off the streets after dark. A boy of 13 was drunk and one of 12 was allegedly involved in a disturbance.

Siamese twins

The first Siamese twins in Britain to be successfully separated were christened at Levenshulme, Manchester. Aoife and Niamh McDonnell, now aged six months, were separated at the chest and abdomen at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Scrap auction

A scrapbook of pictures and engravings compiled by Hans Christian Andersen and thought to be one of the last of its kind surviving in private hands is expected to fetch up to £60,000 when it goes for auction at Sotheby's in London on Friday.

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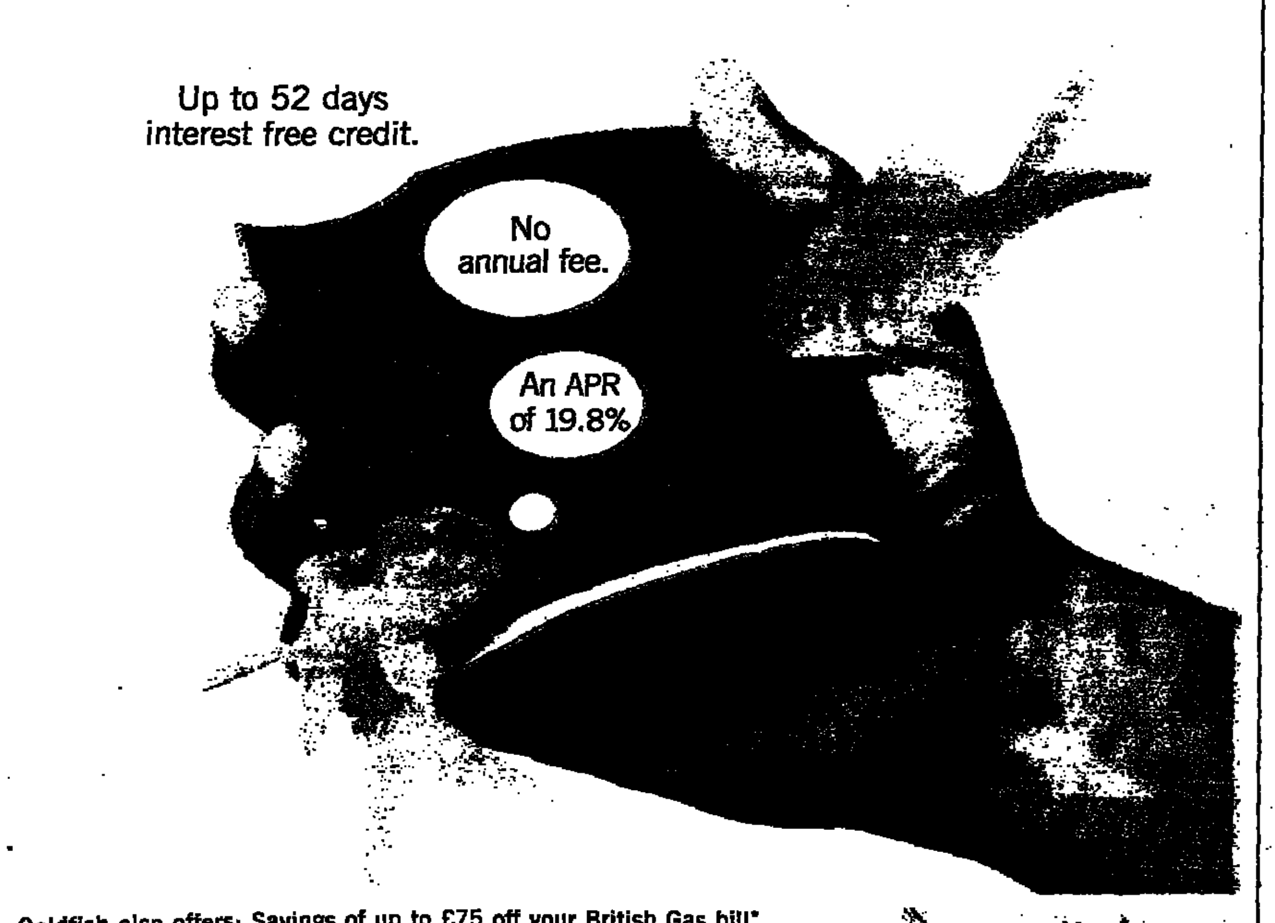

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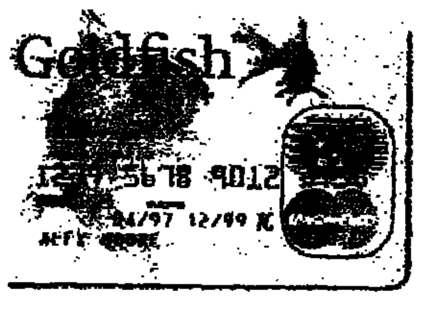

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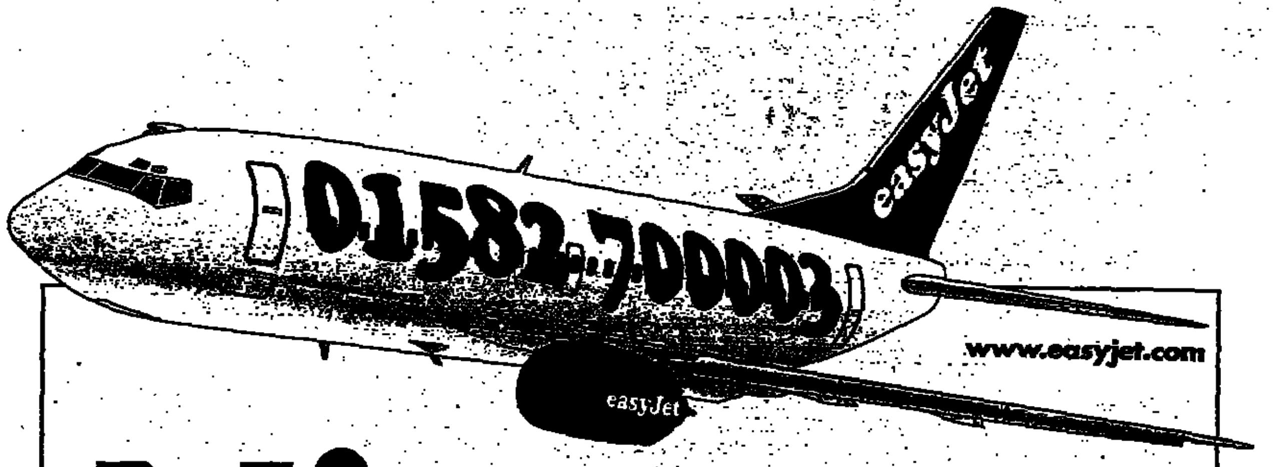

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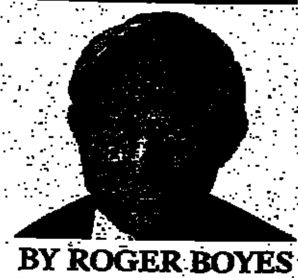
Bonn splashdown heralds launch with shifting centre of gravity

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

Spaceship Bonn has been orbiting the globe for 50 years; oxygen is running short. Inside the weightless capsule, we astronauts — politicians, diplomats, lobbyists and journalists — have sat together in clammy communion, chattering and idly watching the world below. Now it is time to return to Earth.

Bonn, like the burnt-out Mir station, has almost served its purpose and may soon be a museum piece. The Berlin republic looms and Germany is shifting from astro-politics, airless and remote, to gritty geopolitics. Rhinelanders have been waging a quiet, determined resistance struggle against Berlin which, they say, embodies the old Prussian vices. But no amount of departmental sabotage has been able to hold up the move. The foundations of the foreign embassies in Berlin have been laid (usually by Irish or Polish navvies) and the Reichstag — four times the size of the House of Commons — is beginning to resemble a real parliament building.

Bonn's diplomatic appendix, Bad Godesberg, is shrivelling: the spa's only department store has been closed down as has the main furniture shop. Bonn is becoming a husk; Berlin is full of raw, neurotic energy.Two issues are prompted by this emerging Berlin republic. The first is: how far does geography shape policy? Does transporting the capital to within 30 miles of the Polish border change anything? The second concern: will the language of politics change?

Germany ruled from Bonn was obsessed with balance. In the 1980s cruise missiles were installed but only on condition that negotiations with Moscow attempted to dismantle the same weapons; yin-yang, natural equilibrium between East and West. The country when governed from Berlin may not strive in quite the same polished way for internal consistency. Imagine moving the political centre of England from London to Manchester. Policy perspectives would alter. There would obviously be a stronger focus on the problems of the North, and of Northern Ireland.

Berlin will have a similar effect. By the time that politicians are operating from Berlin, in 1999, most of the tricky decisions about European economic and monetary union will have been taken. The Franco-German axis will have survived but it will have been emptied of real significance and the sentimental ties will have loosened; Paris will be the co-manager of the euro and the ideology of European integration will no longer figure in political discourse (except, of course, in Britain).

Instead eastward enlargement of the European Union will dominate German concerns. The Bonn approach to European expansion is to accept it as an article of faith. The Berlin republic will fight for Central Europe because it needs the region as a cushion against an unstable Russia. But there will be frictions too, attempts to extract advantage and concessions from the Poles, Czechs and Hungarians in return for the championing of their cause. The Berlin Chancellor will not be as meely mouthed as the Bonn one; German interests conventionally dressed up as part of the great European project are likely to shed their seven veils.

A taste of the future came in a recent speech delivered in London by Gerhard Schröder, the Lower Saxon Prime Minister. If he is the man to topple Helmut Kohl next year and become the first Berlin Chancellor, no one can doubt that eastward expansion will become more complicated. The Social Democrats want a European budget rebate and they want it more than the early entry of Poland with its huge farming sector.

The party wants to preserve German jobs in heavy industry, even if that means protecting some markets from the East. They want East European workers to vanish from German building sites. They want a more closed Germany. Nobody should be surprised by this or Social Democratic utterances on the need to crack down on foreign criminals and welfare spongers. Herr Kohl's rivals are merely rehearsing for the Berlin move and Spaceship Bonn's orderly evacuation.

French atomic scientist denies KGB spy link

Paris court told classic esponiage case is a show trial, writes Ben Macintyre

ROSE petals sprinkled by a bridge over the Seine; orange peel left near a document drop-off point; a cigarette packet placed by traffic lights: these were the alleged techniques used by Francis Temperville, the French atomic scientist, to communicate with his Russian spymasters in what prosecutors describe as the most damaging espionage scandal in France since the Second World War.

This week M Temperville, 40, will be brought back to a special court without jurors to face charges of treason for allegedly selling top-secret documents to the KGB between 1989 and 1990, including details of the French nuclear strike force and the nuclear test site at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific.

M Temperville's alleged treason is a classic Cold War tale, but as prosecutors pointed out last week, he maintained contact with Russian agents well after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

A former engineer at the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), M Temperville allegedly received up to two million francs (£200,000) from two KGB agents posted at the Soviet Embassy and Unesco in Paris, in exchange for photocopies of at least 100 classified documents.

According to a pre-trial report, M Temperville caused serious damage to the French nuclear programme by passing on information such as techniques for nuclear waste processing and the secret codes used to track the results of weapons tests.

M Temperville had already lost his job at the CEA for stealing office furniture when he was arrested in September 1992 after a former KGB colonel, Victor Otchenko, defected to London and provided information to MI6.

The accused spy has admitted handing over classified information to Sergei "Serge" Zhmyrev, deputy secretary at the Soviet Embassy, and later to Valentin "René" Makarov, third secretary to the Russian delegation at Unesco, but M Temperville claims he did not know they were Russian or that they were spies.

Posing as a Briton, "Serge" first approached the French scientist in 1987, when M Temperville was studying nuclear physics at university, to ask for coaching in maths and chemistry. "He presented himself as a worker at an engineering company who was preparing for an examination," M Temperville said.

When the Frenchman obtained a job in the top-secret military applications division of the CEA, the Russian agent "activated" his contact and became increasingly menacing. "He threatened to kill me, as well as my mother and grandmother. I plunged into hell," M Temperville told the court. "My biggest mistake was not to go to the police at that moment."

Prosecutors, however, have painted a more sophisticated picture of M Temperville's contacts with the agents, who left France under diplomatic immunity after his arrest. Investigators say the KGB left rose petals at a designated site to indicate they wanted a meeting; when M Temperville had documents to hand over, he would allegedly leave them in a rubbish bin near an electricty pylon and then drop orange peel 100 yards away. A packet of Dunhill cigarettes left by a set of traffic lights indicated the KGB had made the pick-up successfully.

After five years in detention, M Temperville faces a further 15 years in prison if convicted of treason, but his lawyer insists that he is the victim of a show trial orchestrated by the DST, the French counter-intelligence agency. "You are trying the ashes of a defunct poltical regime. The only purpose of this trial is to allow the DST to show spies that it is on the alert," Jean-Didier Belot, the lead defence lawyer, said.

The French scientist was known to hold anti-military views and he is accused of attempting to recruit others, but prosecutors say he was mainly motivated by greed. M Temperville , however, claims to have received just 160,000 francs (£16,000) from the KGB agents.

M Belot called the trial, which is expected to last until next week, "an anachronism". He said: "If this were a genuine case of spying, it wouldn't be sorted out in a court of law. The spy would simply be liquidated. He would be rubbed out one night on a bridge."

JEAN CHESNOT / EPA

An artist's impression of Francis Temperville on trial in Paris, accused of passing secrets to the KGB while working at the Atomic Energy Commission

Warning on Mafia 'army' as Italy joins border pact

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

AS Italy yesterday joined the Schengen agreement on free movement across European frontiers, with airport staff giving passengers roses and sparkling wine to celebrate, a senior Italian official gave a warning that organised crime was exploiting the relaxation of border controls. He said the Mafia had "an army which is bigger and more dangerous than Hitler's".

Luciano Violante, the parliamentary Speaker and an anti-Mafia lawyer, told a conference in Trieste on relations between the European Union and Eastern Europe that the growing international power of the Mafia required a coordinated European response. "We have created a European space without borders, but the Mafia is as well placed to take advantage of it as bona fide businessmen and travellers," he said. "We need a grand alliance against organised crime".

He said the Mafia's "immense" forces were "exceptionally well armed" and had financial resources amounting to billions of dollars. "They can move their men and money around the map of Europe like pawns on a chessboard."

Under Schengen, passengers flying from Rome or Milan to Paris or Cologne do not have to show a passport, though airline staff still have to check the name on the ticket against some form of identification at the departure gate. Controls on sea and land borders are being "relaxed" and will be lifted in March.

Piero Fassino, the Deputy Foreign Minister, said yesterday Italy had spent £20 million improving its computerised police intelligence systems and police procedures to satisfy critics "who doubted our capacity to control our frontiers".

☐ **Separatists vote:** The separatist Northern League yesterday staged "elections" for a 200-seat "parliament of the North" in its self-proclaimed "Republic of Padania", which embraces most of Italy's northern provinces. But the Government in Rome said the "election" had no legal or constitutional force.

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Slovenia faces hitch to speedy EU entry

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

FEW cheers could be heard around Western Europe yesterday when foreign ministers effectively settled on a five-member guest list for the first batch of new European Union members from the old Communist bloc, but in one little country across the Alps, the word from Luxembourg prompted a sigh of relief. Slovenia, a state of two million people that nestles between Austria and the Adriatic, made the grade along with Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Estonia.

For Janez Drnovsek, the Prime Minister, the request to join the EU is the pay-off for six hard years that have seen his country turn itself from a breakaway Yugoslav republic into the star among Central Europe's converts to democracy and the free market.

Sitting below a vast chandelier in his Cabinet room, Dr Drnovsek allows himself a little dream. Already well down the road to a Western-style economy, Slovenia could, he said, walk straight into monetary union, swapping its newly created tolars and stotins for the euro.

"We have already met the Maastricht criteria on fiscal matters," he noted. Of EU states, only Luxembourg, Finland and Britain can say the same. But a cloud has loomed over the horizon. The young technocrats who run Slovenia are coming to understand that, for all the noble EU rhetoric on embracing the East, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and other leaders are in no rush to usher in the poor cousins.

Similar fears are being voiced across Central Europe as the EU squabbles about paying for an enlargement that will force a painful shift in resources, including a remake of the common agriculture policy that devours half the EU spending. Spain wants guarantees on continuing cash for the poorer states and Germany wants a big cut in its contributions to EU coffers. The whole enlargement package is called Agenda 2000, but the footdragging has put the entry of the first new members back until at least 2003 and possibly years later.

"It's more a question of when the EU will be ready to accept new members than when we are going to be ready," said Dr Drnovsek, 47, a centre-left politician with a mournful air. He made clear that he is irked by Herr Kohl's apparent determination that no new members should join until Poland is ready.

"Slovenia doesn't present any kind of problem to the EU," Dr Drnovsek said. "We are no competition for Spain, Portugal or Ireland." The boast is backed up by figures. Slovenia, a branch of the old Habsburg empire that likes to forget its Balkan background, now boasts a national income per head of 60 per cent of the EU average, almost the same as Spain and more than Greece and Portugal.

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Wrangle over Turkey

BRITAIN joined forces with France yesterday in an effort to overcome German resistance to inviting Turkey with other would-be members of the European Union to a grand Europe conference in London in February (Charles Bremner writes).

The question of what to do with Turkey soured the air at a weekend session where EU foreign ministers cleared the way to invite five Central European states plus Cyprus to start negotiating their entry to the Union in the new year. Ministers agreed that the French proposal of a grand conference was the best way. The EU has two months to resolve the Turkish squabble and complete its invitation list.

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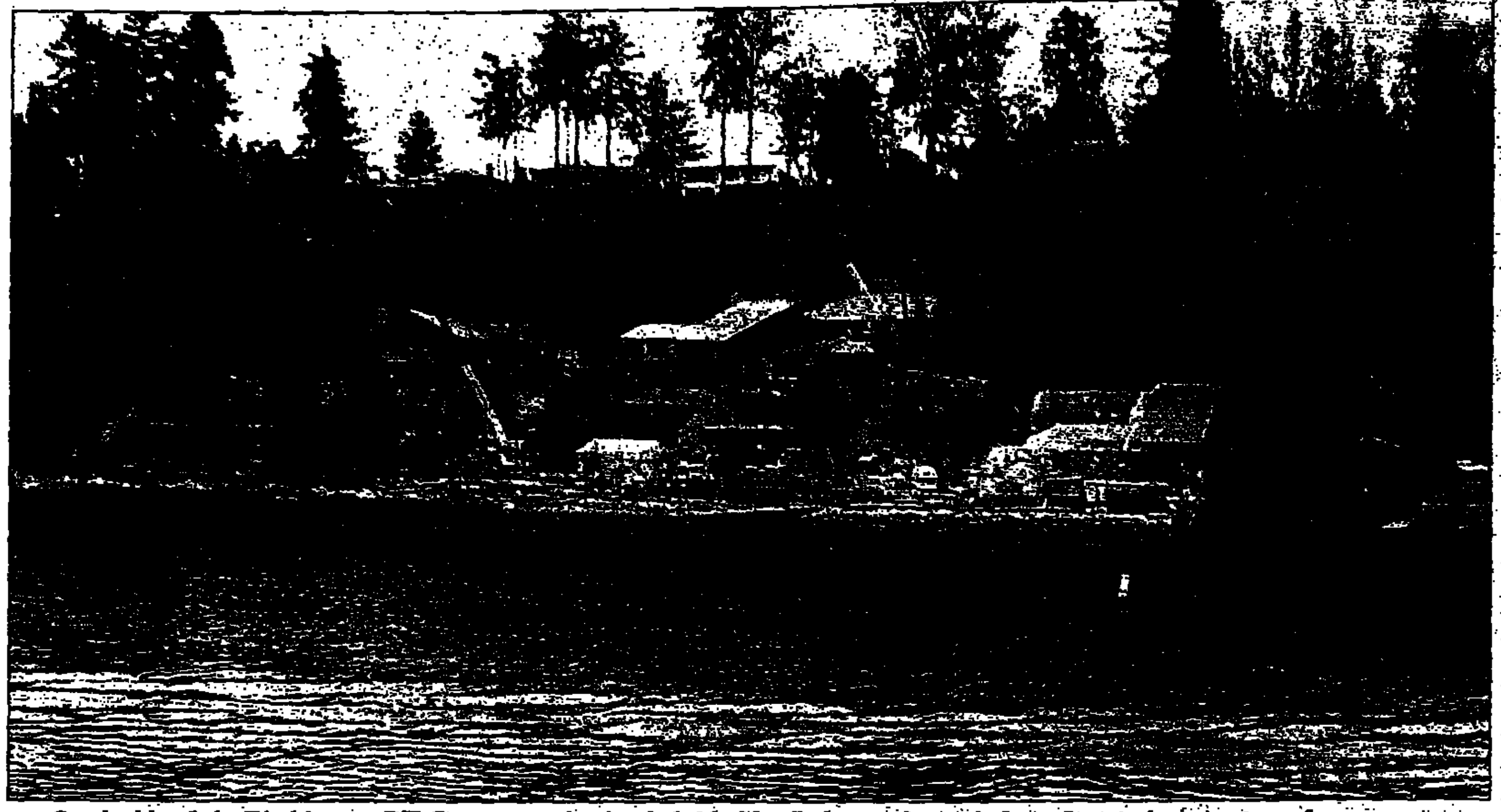
Gates revels in cyber Xanadu

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN MEDINA, WASHINGTON STATE



GILES WHITTELL

Overlooking Lake Washington, Bill Gates's mansion is a hybrid of family home, electronic fun palace and corporate conference centre

WREATHED in mist and overhung by a transplanted forest, Bill Gates's $60 million (£37 million) home is occupied at last, but still not finished. The first proof is a flimsy guard shack at its front entrance. Knocked together out of scrap wood and polythene, it has room for one deck chair and was valued by its occupant at "maybe five dollars". The shack is dwarfed by towering Douglas firs. Etchings of leaves decorate the green-and-grey slate paving. Beyond, 300 yards of driveway twist down to a vaulted subterranean car park from where a tunnel and a sloping footbridge bring visitors, eventually, to the Xanadu of the computer age.

Nature and technology are meant to co-exist here in a series of airy wood and glass pavilions descending sharply to the lush shore of Lake Washington. A central computer — likened by Mr Gates to Hal of *2001: A Space Odyssey* — controls heating, music and art in each room according to personal tastes programmed onto digital badges given to all guests. They can gaze either at the lake, or at video walls displaying any of 100,000 masterpieces to which their host owns the electronic rights.

Bill and Melinda Gates, who moved into their house last month after years of delays

That is the idea. Yet after seven years and endless delays, the world's richest person, worth an estimated $42 billion as a founder of Microsoft, is living next to a high-tech building site of his own making in the town of Medina, much of which resembles suburban Haywards Heath. Among the teething problems: "Hal" is still flummoxed if one guest likes Bach while another in the same room prefers Bananarama. The first family of cyberspace moved in last month. Their private quarters are free of builders, leaving them to frolic in form-fitting baths, bounce in a cubic trampoline room with padded walls and exercise in a 60ft swimming pool with underwater music and a solid teak diving board. Their view over the lake to Seattle is spectacular, but their front yard is a scene of mobile cranes and hard hats. On the first glimpse of the site granted to a newspaper since the family moved in last month, a senior contractor admitted to *The Times* that he and his men would probably be there "for months". Mr Gates seems unembarrassed by the noise and the dust.

His wife Melinda has more reason than her husband to fret over the builders, since she spends more time than he does at home, looking after their infant daughter, Jennifer. But by most accounts she is at least partly responsible for the delays.

The house had been under construction for four years when she married him in Hawaii in 1994 and reportedly declared she could not live in it. "The exposed concrete is going to have to go," he admitted after she hired a French interior designer. Bare steel beams were softened in appearance. Showers went into the 18 bathrooms after being left out of the original design because, local lore has it, they ruled out working on a laptop. The result is a spawling experiment initially intended as "the ultimate bachelor pad", now destined to be a hybrid of family home, electronic fun palace and corporate conference centre.

Voters deliver blow to Menem

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINIANS voted for 127 new congressional deputies yesterday in nationwide elections widely seen as a barometer of growing dissatisfaction with the Government of President Menem.

Pre-ballot surveys and initial exit poll results showed that his Justice Party (the Peronists) could lose control over Congress for the first time in his seven years in office. Argentina's 22 million voters were expected largely to endorse a new opposition alliance, in protest at harsh austerity measures implemented as part of free-market reforms, rising unemployment and numerous corruption scandals.

The Alliance Party, expected to clinch a majority of seats in Congress, is a coalition between the traditional opposition Radical Party and a group of left-wing and centre-left parties. It was formed a few months ago with the intention of "breaking up the monopoly on power" held by Señor Menem's party. "The overwhelming backing for the new coalition is a clear sign of protest against the Government," said Rosendo Fraga, a political analyst.

Menem: party faces Congress losses

New York delights lure back elderly

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

SPURNING Florida and its sunshine, elderly Americans are flocking to New York in search of a better quality of retired life. This trend, reported yesterday in the *Daily News*, appears to turn conventional wisdom on its head, suggesting that senior citizens are no longer satisfied with a life of idleness by the sea or in retirement homes far from the cities where they lived and worked.

Thanks to medical advances, the elderly are more active and often crave the cultural diversions of pre-retirement days. New York offers these in abundance. The good notices the city has received recently for its reduction in crime, improved hygiene and new-found civic vigour have led to the abandonment of fears about life in the Big Apple.

Herbert Stupp, a commissioner in New York City's Department for the Ageing, says: "New York is a very senior-friendly city, perhaps the most in the country." It was a "good place to grow old" because of its sophisticated healthcare, a developed transport network, and price discounts for the elderly at many shops and restaurants. There is already a large pool, about 1.3 million, of over-60s in the city, which is now inured to the foibles of the elderly.

According to the *Daily News*, the new trend towards retirement in New York can be detected in the building boom in homes and apartments for "the retired". Estate agents report a rise in lettings to newly arrived elderly people from "out of town".

Yet it is the city's undeniable cultural attractions which appear to hold the key to the new trend. New York has more museums, cinemas, libraries and theatres than any other city in the world. A lazy daiquiri every evening and the Florida sunsets are simply not in the same league.

Snowstorm paralyses Colorado traffic

BY GILES WHITTELL

AN autumn blizzard which experts said may be related to El Niño, the weather phenomenon, paralysed Colorado at the weekend, with three feet of snow falling on suburban Denver and a deeper blanket on the nearby Rockies. At the city's new airport, designed at huge cost to defy snowy conditions, 2,000 people were stranded for most of Saturday.

Police cars and even snowploughs became stuck in drifts along Interstate 25. Roy Romer, Colorado's Governor, declared a state of emergency and mobilised the National Guard.

Other Western plains states from Nebraska to northern Texas were immobilised by Friday's storm, described by some as the worst since 1982 — the year of the last major El Niño effect.

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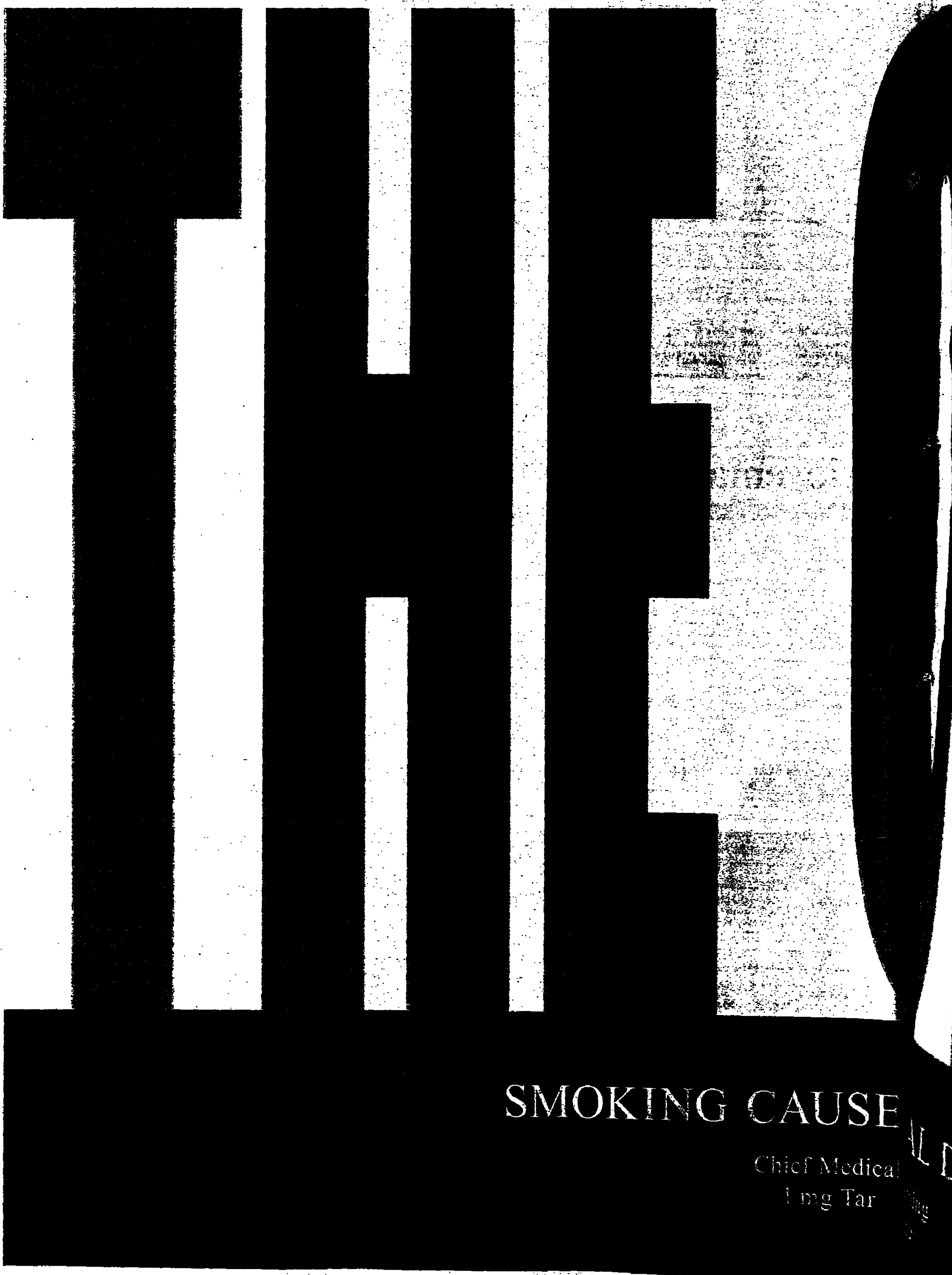

Rights
noisy J

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Rights activists plan noisy Jiang welcome

America's red-carpet treatment for a brutal regime has forged a vocal alliance, **Ian Brodie** reports

WASHINGTON was on edge yesterday awaiting the arrival of President Jiang Zemin of China. Chinese dissidents and their American allies were hoping to attract wide publicity for demonstrations against human rights abuses, including religious persecution and the continued imprisonment of critics of the Beijing Government.

The Clinton Administration was still anxiously anticipating precise assurances from the Chinese for an agreement that would provide the summit's diplomatic centrepiece. It would enable American companies to sell civilian nuclear reactors worth billions of dollars to China in return for Beijing's promise to phase out its nuclear co-operation with Iran, considered a rogue state by the US.

There was less serious conjecture over whether Mr Jiang, widely regarded as a somewhat wooden figure in public, would break into song and play the piano. During a private dinner last year in the Philippines, he astonished President Ramos by joining him in a duet, in English, of the Elvis Presley classic *Love Me Tender*. Given President Clinton's fondness for Elvis and for blowing his saxophone, anything is possible.

Clinton: optimistic about deal on nuclear reactors

Mr Jiang's week-long state visit is of foremost importance for the United States and China, with both nations wanting to improve relations despite fundamental differences. Mr Jiang arrived last night in Hawaii and lands tomorrow in Washington where on Wednesday, in keeping with China's insistent demands, he will receive a 21-gun salute and a state dinner at the White House.

The first such event since China crushed the pro-democracy moment in Tiananmen Square in 1989 has brought together a group of dissidents exiled in America to protest against the red-carpet reception accorded to the 71-year-old Chinese leader.

Wang Xizhe, who spent 14 years in Chinese prisons for challenging Communist ideology, has sent a flurry of e-mails to members of Congress urging them to question China's continued crackdown on dissent.

Now a visiting scholar at Harvard, Mr Wang will join the demonstration that is planned for Lafayette Square opposite the White House, a protest that Chinese officials had pleaded in vain should be kept out of sight and earshot of the formal welcome for Mr Jiang within the grounds.

That evening, during the state banquet, a rival "stateless dinner" will be held at a nearby hotel to condemn China's occupation of Tibet. One speaker will be Richard Gere, the Hollywood actor, a Buddhist and friend of the Dalai Lama who has taken up the Tibetan cause.

Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, sounded defensive yesterday as she emphasised that America's policy of engagement with the Chinese did not mean endorsing everything they did. "We will never have a completely normal relationship with them until they have a better human rights policy," she said. As for the promised demonstrations, Ms Albright said: "The Chinese chose the itinerary. If they are not prepared for them, they ought to be."

☐ **Beijing:** At a rare press conference at the weekend for American journalists, Mr Jiang as usual read prepared replies to questions, a style that will win little favour in the United States (James Pringle writes).

Envoys in the Chinese capital say that it will be hard for him to match the charisma of the late Deng Xiaoping. He beguiled Americans with pithy comments and by wearing a Stetson on his groundbreaking trip in 1979. That followed years of Sino-American strife under Mao, who eventually initiated "ping-pong diplomacy", leading to the 1972 visit by President Nixon. A positive result of the trip, as well as the commitment to end missile sales to Iran, is that China is expected to stop support for nuclear programmes for Pakistan that fall outside UN guidelines.

GREG BAKER / AP

President Jiang answers questions at a weekend press conference in Beijing about his visit to the United States

Triad killings point to gang war in Macau

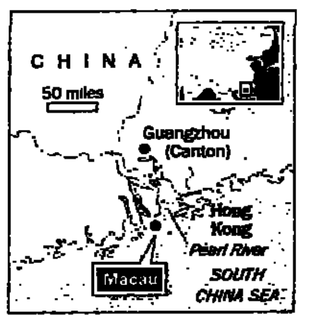
FROM DAVID WATTS IN MACAU

MACAU was on the verge of all-out gang warfare last night after the assassination of the alleged boss of one of the biggest triads in the Portuguese-ruled territory.

The local leader of the 14K gang, Leong Kwak-Hong, was shot dead outside a lift in his apartment building as he returned home in what was seen as a revenge killing for an earlier double murder.

Macau is used by wealthy mainland Chinese who flock to gamble in its nine casinos — a vice that is illegal at home and in Hong Kong.

Some mainland gamblers fly in two or three times a week from the newly rich areas of southern China to be chaperoned by local gangsters offering huge cash loans for gambling, expensive hotel rooms and the services of hundreds of Russian prostitutes. Last year, the industry was worth £1.5 billion and covered half the territory's tax requirements.



Last night's murder was the twenty-fourth gangland-related killing this year in a tiny area with a population of only 450,000, and it follows a series of bomb explosions during the week and a particularly bloody double murder last weekend. That killing was a dispute over who was chaperoning a wealthy mainland gangster. Two young triad members were killed; one shot and the other stabbed 30 times in the car park of the Hyatt Regency hotel, which has the territory's newest casino.

The mainland gamblers bring in two thirds of the revenue in VIP casino rooms where they are waited on hand and foot. One such gambler admitted to a Hong Kong court last week that he had lost £1.5 million in Macau casinos and thought nothing of it.

"This is not the Chicago of the Orient," said one gangland analyst. "So people really notice when something like this happens. You maybe even see the body on the street. You don't just read about it. It's all down to the local spin-offs from gambling — we call it chips and chicks." Tourists have noticed, and the number of visitors is 12 per cent down over last year.

Some believe the latest attacks are an attempt to break the hold of billionaire Stanley Ho, who has a monopoly of gambling in the enclave, which China is committed to recognising until 2001. Macau will return to Chinese rule in 1999. Juan Swing, the deputy manager of the Hotel Lisboa casino, the biggest in the enclave, denies that there is any gangster influence in the gaming rooms and maintains they are only involved in perepheral businesses.

Despite laws introduced recently, it is hard to track down the perpetrators of killings such as that last night. Most of the killers are former soldiers in the Chinese People's Liberation Army who have been made redundant.

Half the assassination fee is paid to the killer's family in advance and the rest on completion when the gunman melts back into the one billion Chinese on the mainland.

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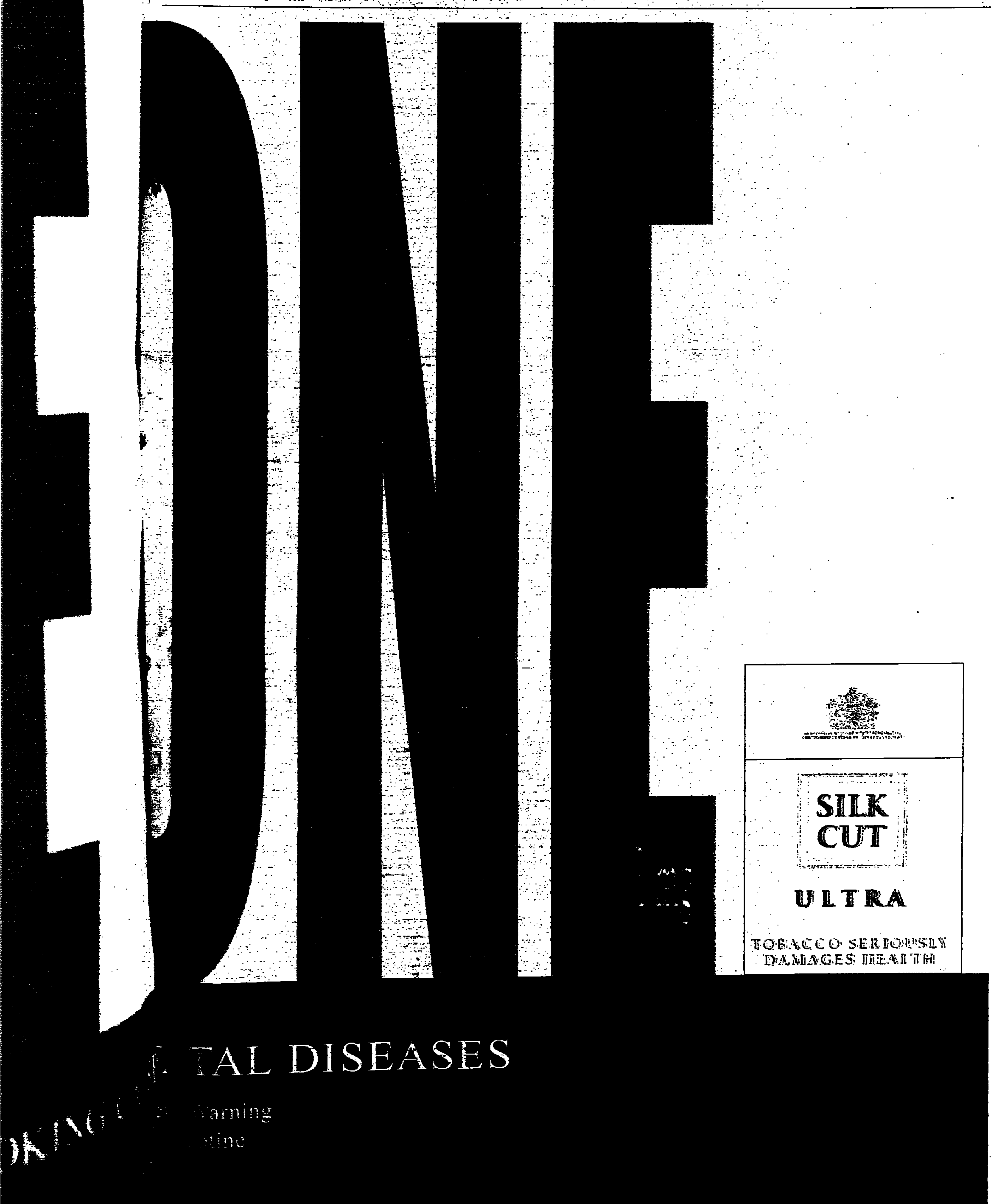

neuve brakes late and takes the inside line, left, but Schumacher refuses to g

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Island states fear trade wind of change

Michael Binyon and **Alasdair Murray** on the split behind the Edinburgh pact

COMMONWEALTH leaders tried at the weekend to *smooth* over a rift between the larger members, eager to embrace *globalisation*, and tiny *island* states that fear they will be overwhelmed in the rush to *liberalise trade*.

The leaders bridged their sharp differences to sign their *first ever economic agreement*, the "landmark Edinburgh Declaration", hailed by Tony Blair as "an important and exciting development" which provides the framework for the Commonwealth to play a "dynamic role in promoting trade and *investment*".

But a group of 40 small Commonwealth countries issued *a warning that they* were especially vulnerable to sweeping new trade measures, *and said they* could be marginalised if their fragile economies were not protected. They called for special help in the transition to the new trading climate, and said the bigger nations should fight for them in any new trade agreements.

The British Government expressed relief that it had *succeeded in placing the* benefits of trade liberalisation and globalisation at the centre of the agreement. But the document stops short of meeting *the key British aim of winning* a clear Commonwealth endorsement for a new "*millennium*" *round of world* trade talks. The Declaration also contains important concessions from developed countries, including Australia, to support measures to make "significant reductions" in greenhouse gas emissions after the *Kyoto* environmental conference.

Mr Blair admitted the "disparate" *nature of the* Commonwealth had made it difficult to reach agreement, *and the Declaration, supposed* to provide the centrepiece of the Heads of Government *Meeting, was launched with* surprisingly little fanfare.

Some 31 Commonwealth members have a population of less than 1.5 *million, and* a few have only several thousand inhabitants. Many are dependent on single *exports*, especially bananas. They fear their voices will be drowned in international trade talks and see the Commonwealth as one of the few bodies ready to listen to them.

Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the *Secretary-General, gave notice* of the small states' worries in his opening address when he *said that the benefits of* globalisation had been distributed unequally. "For many developing countries, globalisation has meant further marginalisation. An international underclass ... has emerged to complement the underclass within nations."

The banana-exporting countries *fear the World Trade* Organisation ruling, which outlaws the special preference *given to Caribbean banana* exports to the European Union, will make them uncompetitive, *bankrupt their* farmers and lead to increases in crime and drug smuggling.

Yesterday the Prime Ministers of the Windward Islands said they were doing their best to diversify their economies, *but there were limits to the* expansion of tourism. Only bananas gave enough jobs to *small farmers, and it was the* only crop that could recover quickly from regular hurricanes and *other* natural disasters.

Britain has promised to try to help, but Tony Blair insists *there is no alternative to* freer trade which in the long run will benefit everyone. He has *refused to give a commitment* that Britain would push the EU into continuing its special *banana regime*.

The small states include some very rich ones, such as Singapore and Brunei. But *they claimed they were* as vulnerable as the others to threats from powerful neigh*bours or natural disasters*.

The very small states, however, are taking a special *interest in another big threat*: the world's climate. Environment and climate change are another issue pitting the big *Commonwealth members* against the smaller ones.

Yesterday's agreement con*tains few concrete measures* and Britain will be looking to the next Commonwealth *Heads of Government Meet*ing to add substance to the principles.

KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

President Mandela with Tony Blair during a stroll by Commonwealth leaders at St Andrews yesterday

Commonwealth leaders retreat to the bunkers

Tofilau: in hospital with a leg infection

BY MICHAEL BINYON

COMMONWEALTH leaders took time out from *formal talks* for a "bonding and binding" day at St Andrews. They strolled across the golf greens, introduced wives and sought ways, over a good lunch and in bracing air, to consolidate *agreements on trade, human rights* and the 54-nation club's expansion.

The leaders, apart from Tofilau *Eti Alesana, the Prime Minister of* Samoa, who was admitted to hospital with a leg infection, were also *invited on Saturday to a dinner* hosted by Tony and Cherie Blair in the *Signet Library in Edinburgh*. At St Andrews, it was decided to accept a report on Commonwealth enlarge*ment that insists* newcomers can join only if they have a constitutional link with Britain or another member, *and a record on human rights* and democracy in line with the Harare declarations.

British sources say that rules out immediate acceptance of two new applicants: Rwanda, on constitution*al grounds, and Yemen because of its* human rights record. But their bids remain on the table and will be *considered in greater detail later*. The leaders adopted the report by *the eight-man Commonwealth Min*isterial Action Group which gives Nigeria another year to restore democracy *before sanctions* and even expulsion are introduced.

And despite unspoken worries by *some African leaders, the heads of* state decided to turn this ministerial group into a permanent human *rights watchdog to report on any* other transgressions among their members.

Membership of the group would rotate every few years, the Commonwealth leaders declared.

The weekend *talks* saw wide-ranging agreement on other issues, including a new trade, investment and development deal, the special needs of the smallest countries and *tough new rules to protect the global* environment.

The last two subjects, however, *showed sharp divisions at the start of* the summit between the big and small members. Officials were hop*ing that the retreat to St Andrews* would sooth away lingering differences before the final communique *is issued today*.

Mr Tofilau, who is in his seventies, spent the day at the Royal *Infirmary of Edinburgh after being* admitted on Saturday at 7pm. It is understood that he was being treated with antibiotics. He was expected to be detained for up to 48 hours.

At the dinner which his illness forced him to miss, the delegates were served with roasted tomato and red onion *with wilted spinach*, followed by loin of Scottish lamb, with roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Caramelised autumn fruits and whisky cream were served for dessert, *and there was a selection of* Scottish traditional cheeses, coffee and Orkney fudge to finish.

Leading article, page 21

WORLD IN BRIEF

Colombian voters defy rebel threat

Bogotá: Colombians braved the threat of bombs and bullets to vote in local polls yesterday while left-wing rebels pressed ahead with a violent sabotage campaign.

Abstention levels as high as 70 per cent were predicted, especially outside major cities where guerrillas paralysed most road transport with their "armed strike". They issued a *warning to voters to stay at* home and declared election officials to be military targets. *(Reuters)*

Asian Aids peril

Manila: Asia will overtake Africa in a few years as the region worst hit by HIV, which causes Aids, and Asians should not be lulled into complacency by new drugs, a UN official said. *(Reuters)*

Iran stoning

Tehran: Three men and three women were stoned to death in public at Sari, 155 miles *northeast of here, after an* Iranian court found them guilty of adultery and prostitu*tion, a newspaper said. (AP)*

Ape victims

Jakarta: People in Borneo killed or tortured about 120 orang-utans as they fled forest fires. Some were sold for £60 each. The total of Indonesian cities hit by smog has nearly doubled to 41 from 22. *(AP)*

Water for Sinai

Cairo: Egypt's President Mubarak pushed a button to send Nile water through four tunnels under the *Suez Canal* to irrigate the arid Sinai desert and allow 1.5 million people to resettle there. *(Reuters)*

A tug too far

Taipei: Doctors reattached the left arms of two Taiwanese *men who lost the limbs when* a tug-of-war rope on which they and another 1,500 people were *pulling snapped*. Forty others were hurt. *(Reuters)*

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Why cabbies are irrational

SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

ECONOMIC theories tend to assume that people's behaviour is rational. But it isn't always so, as Colin Camerer of the California Institute of Technology and colleagues showed in a study of New York City cab drivers. Anyone who has taken a cab in New York might already have suspected this, as the taxis there often seem to be driven by people who are less familiar with the city than a first-time visitor. But we'll let that pass.

Professor Camerer set out to test how cabbies make decisions about how long to work. Two possible economic models apply. One is the law of supply, which suggests that people should want to sell more of something when the price is high than when it is low. The second he calls daily income targeting — that is, the drivers set themselves a target, say $150 a day in fares, and stop when they have achieved it. "Target setting can be very motivating in unpleasant or tedious activities, such as exercise," he says in an account of the project in *Engineering and Science*, Caltech's quarterly journal.

The team, which comprised Camerer, Linda Babcock and George Loewenstein of Carnegie Mellon University, and Richard Thaler of the University of Chicago, got data for the years 1988, 1990 and 1994 from the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission. This comprised meter records which showed how much the drivers earned each day. On a busy day drivers earned money more quickly than on a quiet day. The law of supply suggests that they should go on working longer on such a day, to take advantage of their enhanced earning capacity. The targeting theory says that they should work fewer hours because they hit their daily target sooner.

The data shows clearly that the latter is closer to the truth. Yet it also shows that the cabbies could get an automatic rise of 8 per cent if they worked for the same number of hours each day, and if they fully obeyed the law of supply they could earn an extra 15 per cent. In 1995 they averaged $22,000 a year, so they could have made at least another $2,000 by simply changing their driving habits.

This suggests that the typical New York cabbie is rationally as well as geographically challenged. But there is a final twist. Cab licences run in chronological order, so it is possible to use the data to compare experienced drivers with relative beginners. (In 1991, 40 per cent of the drivers came from India, 11 per cent from Africa, and 7 per cent each from the Caribbean, the Middle East and Russia. Only 10 per cent were American-born.) When the comparison is made, it turns out that naive drivers follow income-targeting but experienced ones come closer to the law of supply.

So as the drivers learn the street patterns, they also learn to behave as rational economic beings: an encouraging conclusion, although not to supply-side economists who argue that people would work harder if taxes were cut. Not if they were New York cabbies, they wouldn't.

Underwater guinea-pigs

A MACABRE experiment in British Columbia could help pathologists to make more informed guesses about how long a body has been immersed in water. Niki Macdonell, a graduate student at Simon Fraser University, dressed eight dead pigs in clothes and immersed them in streams and lakes in forests. She plans to start pulling them out next month.

For the past year she has been monitoring the bodies to study the life cycles of the creatures that live on them — everything from aquatic bugs to clams. Such populations may give useful indications of how long a body has been at a particular place, and whether it has been moved. Pigs were chosen because they are similar in size and mass to human bodies. Ms Macdonell says that until now, pathologists have had to make "educated guesses" when they try to estimate the time of death in such cases.

She has found more than 50 species of invertebrate colonising the pigs. "Bodies are a nutrient-rich source," she says, "but their decomposition and shape make for a great habitat." She planned to remove her pigs months ago, but has been surprised how slowly they have decomposed.

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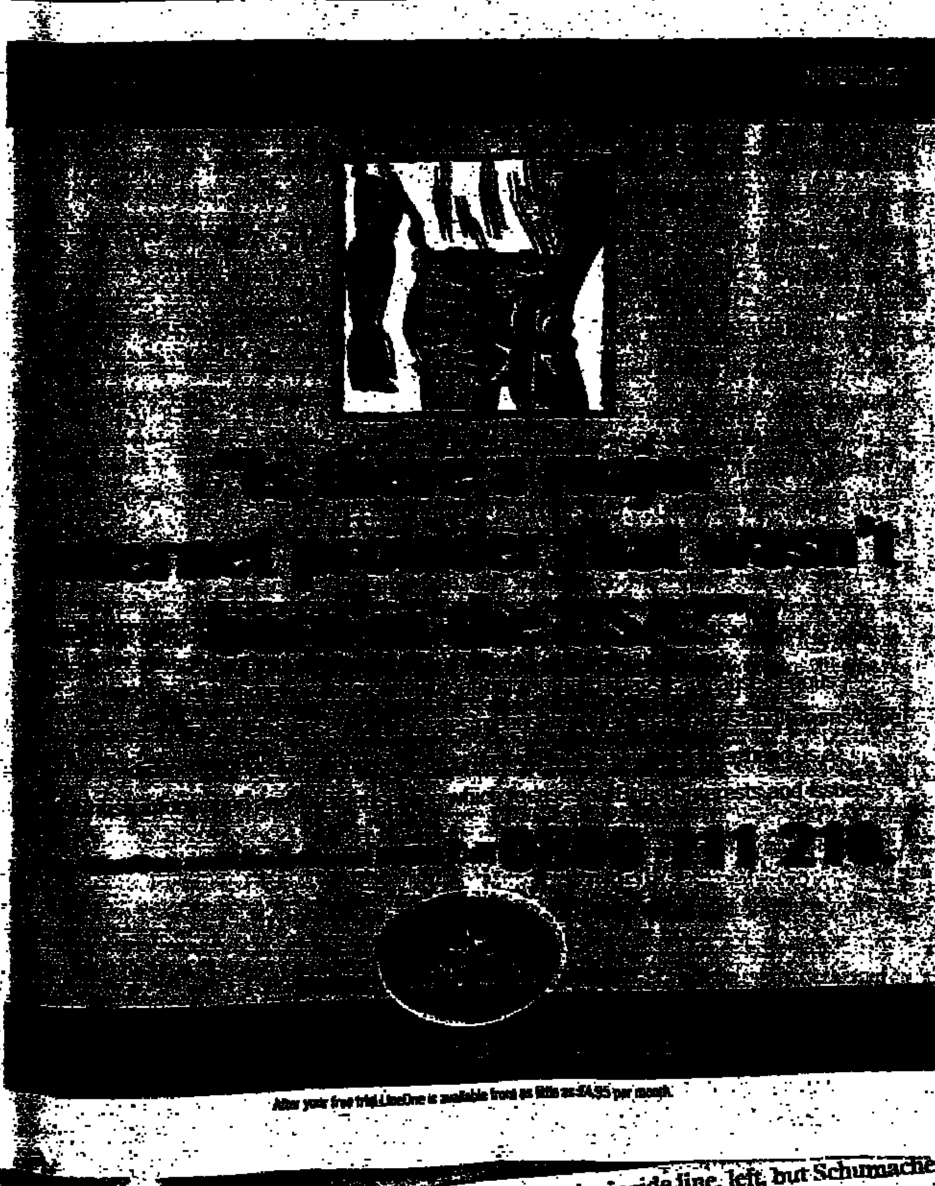

PAUL EDWARDS

Professor Robert Morris, above, is "between 90 and 95 per cent sure" that people possess a hitherto undocumented ability to communicate with the world around them

A perception less ordinary

Anjana Ahuja on the evidence gained from experiments into ESP

The telephone rings; you know who it is before you pick up the receiver. You dream of an old friend; a letter from her plops on to the doormat the next morning. Most of us dismiss such strange happenings as coincidences. But one man has spent most of his professional life trying to prove that such events are not flukes.

At a public lecture next week, Robert Morris, Koestler Professor of Parapsychology at the University of Edinburgh, will say that he is "between 90 and 95 per cent sure" that human beings possess a hitherto undocumented ability to communicate with the world around them. He is convinced that extra-sensory perception (ESP) exists.

Orthodox scientists splutter incredulously that the laws of nature do not allow people to transmit thoughts to each other. How, they ask, can brainwaves be transported and replicated in someone else's head? Professor Morris, an American, admits that he does not have an answer, but he is not bothered by the conflict with conventional science. "Perhaps we need to reinterpret the laws of nature to accommodate it," he says.

Professor Morris, 55, arrived at Edinburgh University 12 years ago to join the Koestler Parapsychology Unit, which was set up with a bequest from the author Arthur Koestler. He dislikes the prefix *para-* (meaning beside, past or beyond): "There is nothing para about our research. I use the term only because of the will."

Before he entered the field, (his PhD at Duke University, North Carolina, was in animal social behaviour), he classed himself as neither believer nor sceptic, although he had experienced "little events, nothing dramatic" that could be coincidences. Once, he recalls, he was discussing forest fires when he received a phone call about that very topic.

The professor and four researchers use a refined version of the Ganzfeld technique. A volunteer (the thought-reader) sits alone in a windowless, soundproof room, with headphones on and halved table-tennis balls covering the eyes. A relaxation tape is played through the headphones to put the volunteer at ease, and then white noise, which sounds like a hiss, is piped through.

The sender sits alone is a separate room. His task is to "transmit", using thought alone, the contents of a randomly selected one-minute video clip (from a pool of 100). While the sender is watching the clip, the recipient is asked to describe images that come to mind.

When the film is over, the sender stays put. Meanwhile, a computer-linked video shows the recipient four video clips; the recipient must choose which one most closely tallies with the mental images he picked up. Since there is a one-in-four chance of guessing the correct clip, the success rate must exceed 25 per cent to be meaningful. In the past three studies, conducted over two years using 276 volunteers, the success rates have been 34, 47 and 42 per cent.

These figures are enough to satisfy Professor Morris that something strange is going on. He adds that some people seem better than others at squeezing strong imagery out of weak information and postulates that there may be a genetic component to ESP.

On inspection, the experimental technique looks scrupulous. "Each person does one session only," says Professor Morris. "If we discard any sessions, we do it before we know the result. We have had acoustic engineers checking the room, and a sensor alerts us if the sender leaves the room." He does not appear to resent the almost hostile scrutiny that his results undergo. "One can only criticise properly if one knows the work. I do think that some criticisms we get are kneejerk reactions, although these are understandable. Extraordinary claims call for extraordinary evidence."

It is difficult not to think that if ESP were a genuine phenomenon, we would all know about it by now. "If it occurred with sufficient ease and strength, maybe," says Professor Morris. "Perhaps it gets crowded out by noise and people don't notice it. The Ganzfeld technique puts people in special circumstances."

Yet how can thoughts physically be transmitted? According to Professor Morris, several physicists, including the Nobel laureate Sir Brian Josephson at Cambridge University, are applying their expertise to this area. Tentative suggestions include energy fields and unidentified particles. The answer may *even lie entwined in the secrets* of consciousness. It is hard to know what to conclude after talking to Professor Morris. He dismisses the rash of television programmes on paranormal subjects as "abysmal and misleading". His CV shows an impeccable academic grounding. He does not court publicity for his unusual endeavours.

On the other hand, his research papers have been published in parapsychology, *rather than mainstream journals*, and results must be painstakingly extracted from a flurry of statistics. One of Professor Morris's former students, Dr Richard Wiseman, from the University of Hertfordshire, concluded that, when taken together, all 31 Ganzfeld experiments carried out across the world between 1986 and 1996 showed no significant effect. Dr Wiseman says: "I'm at the sceptical end of things. We don't disagree on the data, only the interpretation." Could Professor Morris ever see *Nature* publishing a paper saying that ESP existed? "*Nature* did publish one in the Seventies. I think we could see another, but only once a body of evidence has been accumulated. I'm pretty sure I'm going to die before I get a sense of closure on this."

I hope Professor Morris forgives me for thinking the same.

Professor Morris will lecture at the Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam St, London WC2, on November 3. Admission is free. Call 0171-930 9286 to reserve a place.

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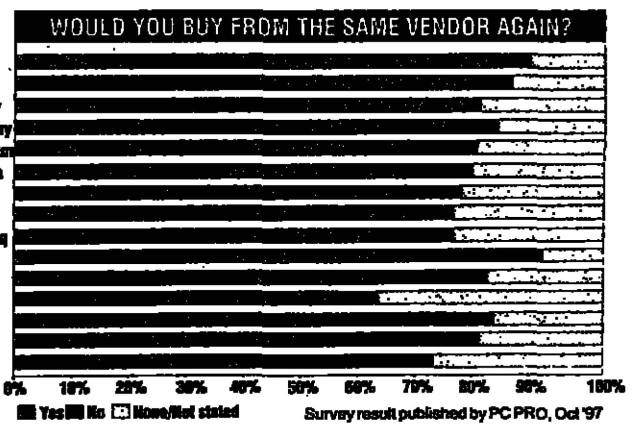

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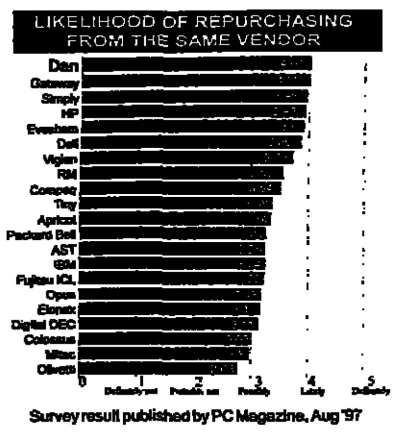

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Villeneuve brakes late and takes the inside line, left, but Schumacher refuses to g

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'I only found freedom when I came to prison'

Harry Stourton goes to Pentonville to meet the criminals trying to kick their addiction to drugs

Walk through any run-down urban area and you will come across the detritus of a drug-taking culture: the water-bottle pipe of the crack addict, the brown stained foil of the smackhead, the spent syringe of the junkie. Drugs are such a menacing temptation that almost half the population under the age of 30 is believed to have experimented with them.

Only a minority will become addicted, but those who do exert a pernicious influence. It can cost hundreds of pounds a day to feed a habit and few can manage that legally. Most addicts turn to crime. The statistics are staggering — about 50 per cent of property crime, for example, is directly attributable to addicts frantic for cash. So what is the answer? Prison, many people will say, or zero tolerance and stern sentences.

The trouble with prison is that it often exacerbates the problem. Drastically understaffed, today's crowded jails are hotbeds of drug dealing. It is often easier to get hold of illegal substances inside jail.

Clive Barber, the Governor of R Wing at Pentonville prison, says that most drugs get in through social visits. "If friends and family members bring them in, the prisoners can then secrete them internally and it is impossible for us to intercept them," he says. Inside prison, drugs take on an even sharper focus. The mental escape they offer can seem like the only release for a sector of society that despairs of its future.

Six years ago a charitable organisation, RAPt (the Rehabilitation of Addicted Prisoners Trust), was set up to help prisoners to overcome their addiction while still serving their sentences. Mike Trace, executive director of RAPt and deputy to the newly appointed drugs czar, Keith Hellawell, says: "Drug culture and criminal culture are interrelated in the UK." He estimates that there could be as many as 20,000 people passing through prison annually who require treatment; at the moment it is available to only 1,500 people. RAPt operates schemes in five prisons: Downview, Coldingley, Wandsworth, Pentonville and Norwich.

The Rehabilitation of Addicted Prisoners Trust conducts a group session for addicts

It was to Pentonville I went: a stark, sprawling Victorian building. Escorted inside the gates, past endless security checks, I found myself in a world of grimy brick walls and barred windows. The metal walkways clattered under the tread of booted feet. But as I reached R Wing — where the drug rehabilitation unit is centred — the change of mood was palpable. It was clean and bright and the atmosphere was calmer and quieter.

It was here that I met Mickey, who had been elected to act as a spokesman for the group. The 28-year-old East Ender is typical of the people RAPt helps. Thickset, with a cropped scalp and an intimidating stare, he tells of his past life. He is serving his seventh sentence for crimes such as theft, assault and criminal damage. "I sniffed glue and smoked cannabis at school," he says, "but my drug of choice was alcohol until I went to prison. There, I would take anything I could get my hands on: methadone, smack, LSD." All of this on top of the antidepressants prescribed for him by prison doctors.

Mickey felt that he had been trapped in a cycle of crime. Released after his first sentence, he had no money or prospects. His father had been murdered by his stepfather, and his alcoholic mother was little help. He began to drink and take drugs. An uncontrolled, violent binge landed him back in prison. By then, he was an addict. All his subsequent sentences were the result of crimes committed to finance his habit. When Mickey is released in 1999 he will have spent most of his twenties inside.

"I got depressed and paranoid and I started harming myself. I cut my throat and my arms," he says. "I didn't know how to stop. I thought I was no good to anyone and would be better off dead."

Finally, Mickey encountered RAPt. "I realised if I continued the way I was I would end up killing myself — and probably someone else, too." So he applied for a place on R Wing.

An intensive 12-step programme, RAPt focuses on withdrawal from a drug and on encouraging personal awareness and self-respect. Treatment begins with a two-week detox. Prisoners are then offered counselling both in groups and individually. The prisoners are encouraged to analyse their past life, taking stock of their strengths and weaknesses and coming to terms with the people whom they have harmed through their addiction.

They are asked to write their life story, presenting it to the group. This can be emotionally gruelling for even the most hardened criminal. Sharing experiences with others who have similar backgrounds is intended to make the addict realise that his plight is not unique and it is possible to overcome addiction. There is also a daily programme of lectures, videos and counselling. This support continues with an extensive after-care programme once a prisoner has been released.

The programme is not an easy option. "We have to assess whether a person really is an addict or whether he just wants to enjoy the softer regime of R Wing," Elmer Terry, RAPt's programme manager, says. "When someone is admitted it is essential that they remain clean and we ensure this through regular urine tests. If a positive result shows, the prisoner is removed from the wing for a fortnight. A second positive result and they are out."

Dealing with many wily customers, the programme workers are not easily duped. Most counsellors are former addicts and they know the tricks of the trade. John Mealyer, for instance, the senior counsellor at Pentonville, was an addict for 12 years and served four sentences for dealing, including one in Pentonville. During his treatment he discovered a natural aptitude for counselling and, once released, went on to Ruskin College, Oxford, where he took a diploma in multidisciplinary studies of drug misuse.

Some have doubted the genuine reform of such people. It has been argued that it is most unwise to give former inmates and addicts the keys to a prison wing. Clive Barber, the governor, believes that with careful security screening, this is justified. "I'm perceived as someone who is middle-class," he says. "I've never taken a drug in my life. If I said that I was going to counsel prisoners about drugs I'd have no credibility because I haven't been there. That's why there *is* a need for poachers turned gamekeepers."

For Mickey, the example of reformed prisoners is inspiring. "I look at people like that and think maybe I can do it as well," he says. Nonetheless, he found embarking on the programme daunting. "I was really scared at first . . . scared of telling people about myself . . . that's basically what this course is about — confessing everything. But soon I realised I wasn't *the* only one in trouble, not the only one who had done things while I was high. Once I realised that I just surrendered. I've been clean now for nine months."

His warders have noticed a marked change. "Mickey used to be aggressive and uncooperative," Officer Dominic Miqueleiz says. "He still has a fiery temper but when he loses it now, he loses it less madly. What's more, he will apologise."

But the RAPt workers know that Mickey has taken only the first step. "It's always a mystery to the layperson why, after detoxing, you would want to start using again," Mr Terry says. "But drugs are a magnet. You can use them when you are feeling suicidal and know, that with one single fix, everything will be all right. You can escape."

It is still too early to measure how successful the programme has been. An independent study is due to be completed in January, but Mr Barber is convinced that drug addiction treatment should be available in every prison. However, there is not enough money for the service. "It's a disgrace really," Mr Barber says. "You just have to walk through R Wing to see the difference in the prisoners who go there. I've never heard of anyone reoffending once they have completed the course in this prison or any other."

The future of RAPt is uncertain. Although partially funded by the Government, as a charity RAPt depends on the generosity of charitable foundations for its survival. "Curing prisoners of drug addiction is not a cause to which people are sympathetic," Mr Trace says. "We encounter resistance from both outside and inside the Prison Service.

"Some people believe that anyone who offers welfare is a 'care bear' and is being manipulated by the prisoners. As a result, we are under tremendous pressure to prove ourselves." He is convinced that money spent on treatment is a worthwhile investment. "To date, only 10 per cent of those who have received treatment have relapsed, and none of those has reoffended."

Mickey is feeling optimistic for the first time in years. "Maybe it sounds a bit corny," he says, "but I always thought I was an addict and criminal, and that was me for the rest of my life. Now I think I can see a light at the end of the tunnel at last.

"It probably sounds like a bit of a contradiction in terms, but I only found freedom when I came to prison."

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PETER NICHOLLS

Prisons are hotbeds of drug dealing: it is easy to get hold of illegal substances inside

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Claudia, catwalks and Copperfield

When it came to interviewing Claudia Schiffer at the opening of her restaurant, Fashion Café, **Jane Shilling** found she was forced to put her foot in the door

"Oh Gawd, woss this then?" said the taxi driver, slowing to a crawl as we turned into Coventry Street. "Blardy sightseers!"

Oh dear. And so there were. Milling hopelessly about all over the road between Planet Hollywood and the Café de Paris. I got out of the car and found myself in the middle of a very English sort of throng. Anorak-clad, pale faces pinched with the cold, apologising nicely to each other as they ran over each other's toes with their baby buggies, they all seemed to be gazing up at a window, five or six storeys above the pavement, in the bright frame of which appeared a tall figure with long, golden hair who seemed to be pointing at the earthlings below. Who *could* it be? Suddenly, I realised that the crowd and I were all standing here in the dark for much the same reason. They had come to catch a glimpse of the celebs who would be attending the opening party of the Fashion Café's new site. And I had come along to interview Claudia Schiffer who, with her sister supermodels, Elle Macpherson and Naomi Campbell, owns the joint.

With some difficulty I forced a way to the entrance. The door opened a crack. Sorry, said a burly chap in black tie. No admittance. Don't be silly, I said. Miss Schiffer is expecting me. And just as he was about to bang it in my face, I put my foot in the door.

We looked at my foot, the doorman and I. Now, the rest of me may have been looking pretty dim (what, after all, *do* you wear to an interview with a supermodel? No one, as Nanny would say, will be looking at *you*, darling), but on my foot there happened to be a Manolo Blahnik boot of supermodellish elegance. All right, said the bouncer. Wait here. And he muttered into his lapel. Eventually, a blonde PR girl appeared and led me to a tiny office at the very top of the building. I peered down at the crowd, which seemed to be growing. Time passed. Miss Schiffer is here now, said the PR girl.

Often, the shocking thing about models is not how beautiful they are, but how strange-looking. There is something unnatural about their proportions, as though they have been assembled from body parts belonging to some tribe of exquisite aliens. I had been sure that this was what Claudia Schiffer would look like in the flesh.

In the photographs, her beauty appears strangely characterless, with a curiously roguish allure, like synthetic essence of sex appeal. It is a look much admired by a certain sort of chap — Prince Albert of Monaco, for example, and her fiancé of three years, the vulpine, mono-eyebrowed, perma-tanned American magician, David Copperfield. But in the bitchy world of haute couture, it is, just at the moment, deeply unfashionable.

So I was taken aback to encounter, not a wriggling Barbie doll, but a fine-boned, fragile figure in a long Gucci riding coat, fishnet tights and black boots. Strenuous attempts had been made to conceal her prettiness — bright ochre foundation; lips painted a disconcerting Hallowe'en black — but it was still spectacular. Also spectacular was the whacking ring on the third finger of her right hand. This, presumably, was the $3 million Cartier engagement ring bestowed on her by her saturnine magician. About whom, very shortly, I would be obliged to ask.

> 'She would have been a wonderful Hollywood silent star'

Miss Schiffer has been having rather a tough time of it recently — inasmuch as you can be said to be having a tough time when you are ravishingly pretty, extremely rich, engaged to be married, and still in your twenties (her agency, Elite, says that she is 27). Last September she was replaced as the Face of Chanel by the English aristocrat Stella Tennant.

Karl Lagerfeld, never one to be deterred by considerations of gentlemanliness when speaking about his ex-muses, said at the time: "Claudia would have been a wonderful Hollywood silent star." Unsurprisingly, it was then reported that she had decided to retire from the catwalk. She said nothing rude about her successor, but made some pointed remarks about the sadness of junkie chic.

So, I say, was it your dislike of the heroin chic look that prompted you to retire from the catwalk?

Ah, says Claudia, in an accent more American than German: "I *do* find junkie chic terrible. I mean, I always stood for health. I don't think it is a good example for young girls if you are supposed to look sick, with huge circles under your eyes.

"If I do a fashion show, or a shoot, I'll be very trendy, and I'll work with the craziest make-ups. But not this unhealthy, sad look. There are a lot of photographers who specialise in that look that I don't want to work with." (When I repeat this remark to a senior British fashion editor, she says that Claudia *has* tried working with photographers who are, to use that fashion-speak term of approbation, "edgy", but that the resulting pictures have not been regarded as a great success.) "But," adds Claudia smoothly, "it is not true that I have given up the catwalk."

"Oh?" I say, startled. "Have you done any shows this season?" "No," says Claudia, composedly. "I don't have much time right now. You do fashion shows because people in the fashion world are going to be in the audience. Once you have succeeded, there is no particular reason to do it any more, unless you are having fun. Naomi Campbell, for example, loves being on the catwalk."

So what is it, I say, that you don't love and Naomi does?

"Oh, it is very unpersonal, very hectic. A TV commercial, or a movie are much more creative pieces of work. And I am very busy with [her advertising campaigns for] L'Oréal and Citroën. I am well known internationally, so I have really the luxury of selecting whatever I want to do. If I give time, it will be for Valentino, or John Galliano — or a tribute to Gianni Versace, or something like that."

You weren't at the most recent Versace show? I hazard. No, says Claudia. As it happens, there was a big press launch for Citroën in Madrid that day.

Whatever the real reasons behind her absence from the catwalks, Schiffer has not been idle. Early next year she will burst onto the cinema screens in *The Blackout*, a film directed by Abel Ferrara, in which she co-stars with Matthew Modine, Dennis Hopper and Béatrice Dalle. The film has been described as "miscalculated balderdash"; Schiffer's performance variously as "convincing" and "Emmenthal-bland". One report had the director screaming at his *ingénue*: "The first damn goat that comes down the road would play the part better than you!"

Schiffer and Copperfield

"I had a really good experience with Abel," says Claudia, creamily. "He is wonderful with his actors. I learnt so much from that."

So, does she have plans for any more films?

"I am reading scripts now," she says. "But basically, I am touring, like a singer, from one city to another. It is very tough, and hopefully one day I can say, OK, now I am going to step back and maybe have a family or something..."

Ah, I say. A family. What *are* her plans in that direction? Earlier this year it was reported, in the magazine *Paris Match*, that her liaison with David Copperfield came about not because of any overwhelming physical attraction, but more as a kind of business arrangement, underpinned by an exchange of letters specifying personal appearances in return for the provision of bodyguards, limos, first-class air tickets, agents' commission and other details of a most unromantic nature.

Mention of this sends all the light out of Claudia, who had become quite animated for a moment. "I'm not allowed to talk about it," she says, stonily. "There have been serious lies published. My lawyers are handling that right now, and his lawyers as well."

The wedding was supposed to have been in July — the month in which *Match* published its allegations — but it was postponed. Does she have a new date?

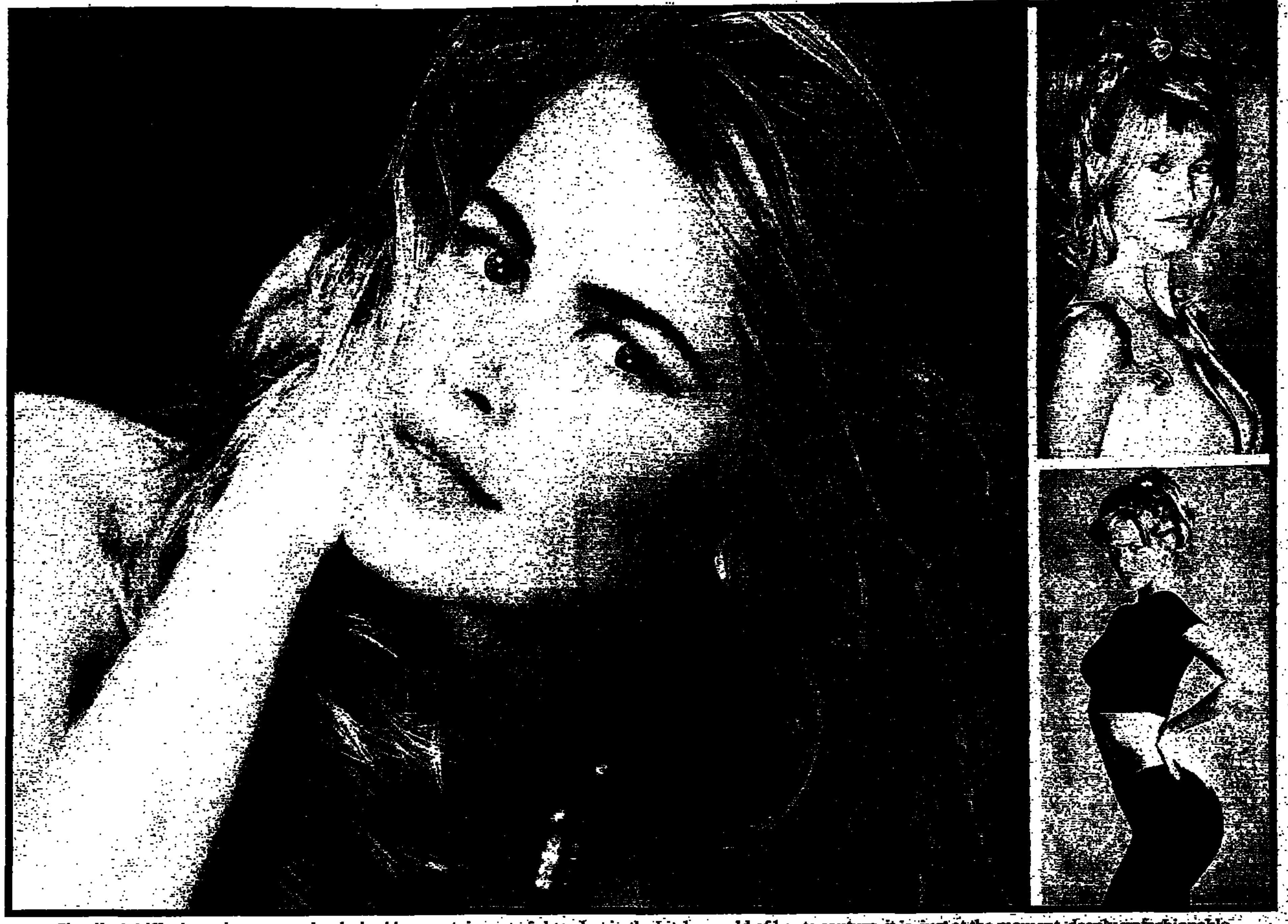
Out of the corner of my eye, I see the PR girl twitch.

No, says Claudia, no date. But that *is* his engagement ring? She is still engaged? Yes, says Claudia. That's his ring. She stands up. Puts out her hand. For a second the Copperfield rock is within my grasp. And then she is gone.

I drift downstairs to the party. Dotted around the place in glass cases are Great Outfits from Fashion History — Madonna's gold lamé Gaultier bustier; the weeny pale pink vest and knickers that Naomi wore on a Michael Jackson video. The music is deafening, and Elle Macpherson, five months pregnant, is making an entrance worthy of the Queen of Sheba. I find myself wondering why on earth Claudia, so nice, so pretty, so evidently clever, should care about any of this tawdry stuff.

Why, I think, doesn't she find herself a good man, with a proper job and the usual number of eyebrows, and settle down to the happy home life she obviously longs for?

And then, in the corner of the bar, I see an enormous video screen. On it is Claudia, pouting and wriggling and mugging for the camera — as though her life depended on it.



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Claudia Schiffer has a beauty much admired by a certain sort of chap, but in the bitchy world of haute couture, it is, just at the moment, deeply unfashionable

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How I found myself living in the past

MELVYN BRAGG

Are there any general reasons for what seems a sudden clustering of British writers taking up the recently despised and thought to be defunct historical novel? It is always a temptation to rush to a straight relationship between *the conditions* of the time and their consequences on art. I am not too sure *that the relationship* is as direct. Do turbulent times lead to turbulent art? Yes, sometimes — but hark! Here is a work of art from the same period which is serene, calm, a millpond. But that is a *reaction* to the turbulent times; without the turbulence the millpond would not have existed. These games could go on all day.

When I studied *history I came to* believe that there were independent strands within any overall scheme of things, and art often goes its own sweet way. Yet it is worth a paragraph to yield to the temptation to link our times with the revival of the historical novel, if only because it has become such a mantra. End of Empire. End of *World* Rule. *End* of Industrial Might, End of English Domination of English Language. Beginning *of* Decline, Identity Crisis, Renaissance necessary ... Therefore, look to the past.

There could be something in this. But perhaps more importantly there are in the past very good stories and narratives, and now that literary writers have plucked up the courage to accept that big stories need not be the monopoly of pulp writers we can go out and get them. It could be as simple as that.

My experience is relevant here. The early Middle Ages fascinated me when I encountered them at university. Nearly 40 years later I wrote *Credo*. It took me that time not only to pluck up the courage and gather the material, but also to feel that the time was right to devote the concentration to something set so deeply in the past.

The first problem was to distinguish between history and historical fiction. There was a view that all history was merely "fictions" and *that to write an historical* novel did not involve tangling with historical disciplines. But we cannot write an historical novel unless we are aware of those disciplines and their difference from fiction. Equally, we must find a distance from the history or it will not be fiction.

There is something else that is almost impossible to describe, which is that you have to throw a gear in your mind: you have to *have a talent to feel that* you can understand the past, and believe that you can recreate it from the limited information available to you. But if you think you can take that plunge then what opens up is a prospect of engagement and an *intensity very difficult to secure* in the present.

For instance, I was brought up as a devout Christian and was interested in saints and the ideal of utter earthly sacrifice, the ambition of total purity. I'm sure examples exist of these in the world today, but the fact that the Celtic monks and nuns in the 7th century had left such clear traces — traces which I thought I could track — made it easier for me to *explore* the roots of such matters. Distance gives confidence.

I am also interested in war, especially the ancient forms of hand-to-hand conflict — which is why boxing still holds an attraction. The notion of single combat which brings in memories from Thermopylae to Agincourt was something that could be explored in a 7th-century Britain in which the British were fighting for survival.

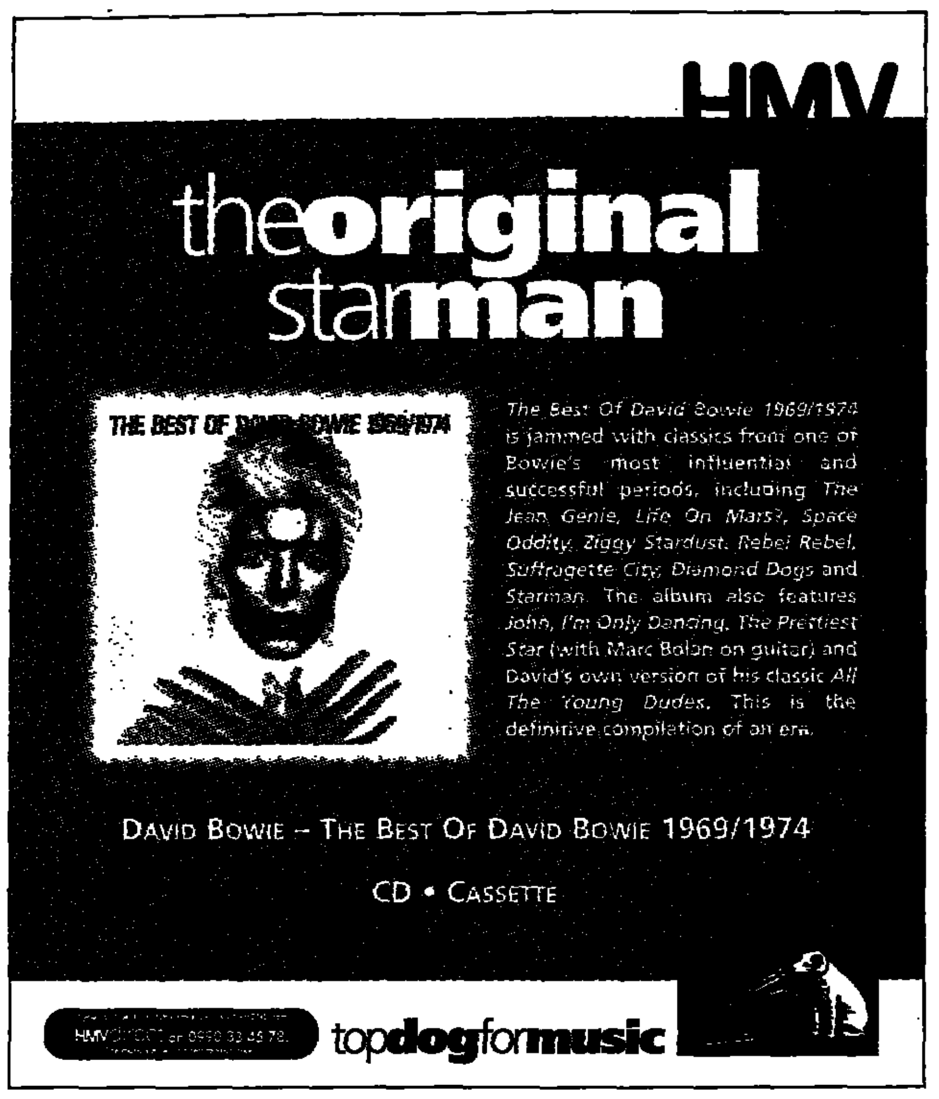
When I began to look again at previous authors of historical novels I discovered that they have much in common with what some of us are doing now. First they are taken into the past by a genuine fascination. Of Sir Walter Scott, it was *reported that* "*his interest in* the Old Border tales and ballads had early been aroused and were stimulated by Percy's reliques ..."

Scott gives us another purpose for historical novels, in his attempt to keep the past alive and make it inspirational for the present. Here the past is used partly for propaganda, but this does not necessarily harm it as literature.

Sometimes a novelist of even the greatest strength can find a different release of energy in the past. Dickens's fascination *with crowds and mobs* is well known, but perhaps he never unleashed it as fully as he was able to do in one of his historical novels, *Barnaby Rudge*, in which he wrote: "My object has been to convey an idea of multitudes, violence and fury; and even to lose my own dramatis personae in the throng."

Allied reasons obtain today. In *Hawksmoor*, Peter Ackroyd explores the idea of the recurrences of history, the cycles of events in particular London locations. In *Every Man for Himself*, Beryl Bainbridge finds a contained and isolated world which allows her to concentrate wholly on the bounded passions which are at the heart of her fiction. George MacDonald Fraser, in *Black Ajax*, by detailing the savagery and *blood of early* prize-fighting in this country, not only vivifies that past but shows us what *we wish to conceal* about ourselves now.

It was *The Spire* by William *Golding* which, of all recent historical novels, first convinced me that the form had been dismissed by nothing more than the vice of fashion. When the two churchmen are talking about the model of the cathedral they might almost be chatting today — until the words: "The Foundations. I know. But God will provide." God does and, by taking *us back into our medieval* past, Golding convinces us that God does, and so unites the spire painted by Constable to the dream which came from the faith now thought defunct. As historical novels once appeared to be.



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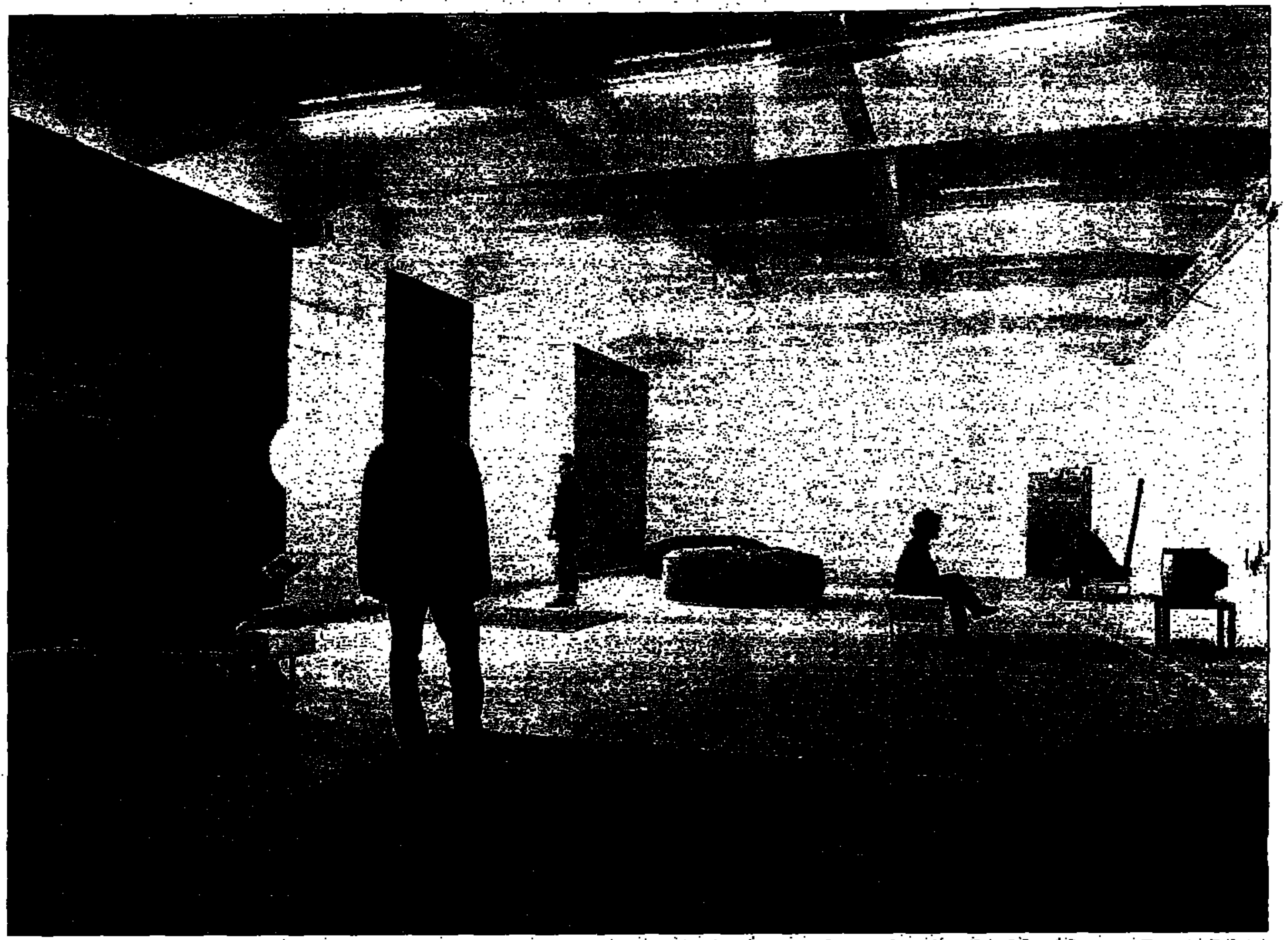

"Predictable gimmickry and gross banality"? This is *Vehicles* by Angela Bulloch, one of the four artists shortlisted for this year's Turner Prize

The fogeys bite back

Joanna Pitman reports on the launch of a high-powered protest movement against the kind of art associated with the Turner Prize

Nicholas Serota, the director of the Tate Gallery, had better watch his back on Wednesday when he opens the Turner Prize 1997 Exhibition. A *gang of angry artists plans to demonstrate* on the steps of the Tate against the "trivial, banal, inane, predictable, vacuous and idiotic exhibits" and demand, in words of few syllables, Serota's resignation. And they are prepared for a fight.

The protesters, a group calling themselves New Metaphysical Art, will tell Serota that he "presides over a *monster which, year after year,* with few exceptions, tramples on art and progressively muddies artistic judgment". How, they will ask, "can you invoke the name of the great visionary artist, Turner ... while the four fabricators shortlisted for the prize this year *represent, as in previous* years, little more than predictable gimmickry and gross banality?"

New Metaphysical Art launched itself earlier this year from Sussex University with a bold crimson manifesto blazing against the "progressive trivialisation of art, the uncritical and endless use of parody and pastiche, against the ironic and clever habits of Post-Modernists ..." and calling for a "new initiative in art making ... an art which is defiant, passionate, metaphysical and utterly inexorable".

The group is led by *Peter Abbs, the* poet and Sussex University lecturer, Anna Carlisle, the choreographer, Jonathan Harvey, the composer, and James Schneider, the painter. It is also backed by some weighty patrons including Michael Tippett, Yehudi Menuhin, Kathleen Raine and the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt.

"We are absolutely serious about this," says Abbs. "All these predictable, tedious and jokey installation works are *suppressing the ideas and imaginations* of other young artists. There are of course some exceptions, but we don't like the status quo. The Establishment supports it all — the big collectors and the public galleries buy it, big business sponsors it and the media hypes it and ends up *establishing people like* Damien Hirst with such hideous fame.

"But my main concern is with aesthetic *judgment. I just don't think it* is art. It doesn't embody any personal meaning, or any way of interpreting the world. It fails to symbolise. At best these are bits of data, concepts."

Visitors to the exhibition should judge for themselves. Cornelia Parker's oeuvre includes a *man's shirt* on a coat hanger "burnt by a meteorite", earplugs made from fluff collected in the whispering gallery of St Paul's Cathedral and bits of silver cutlery dangled over the White Cliffs of Dover. Christine Borland will show leather "dolls" containing replica foetal skulls. In one of Gillian Wearing's works, a video called *10-16*, a dwarf *is shown saying* he would like to kill his mother. And in *Workbench*, the fourth finalist, Angela Bulloch, invites the public to sit on a bench and observe brown liquid flowing through a tube.

Barry Barker, a director of the Lisson Gallery which represents Borland, believes the Turner Prize will always attract controversy. "These are substantial works and they *express new* ideas. There are so many preconceptions about conceptual art and this kind of protest is pure prejudice."

But following the storm of heartfelt disgust voiced last month at some exhibits in the Royal Academy's *Sensation* exhibition, *New Metaphysical Art* appears to be bang in tune with a growing band who cannot abide the youthful hubris or brutally perverse candour embodied by many of these artists. What's more, artists such as Fiona Rae and Callum Innes are yearning for a release from the manipulated frissons of the neo-conceptual vogue. *Rae* wrote in the catalogue to a recent show at the Saatchi Gallery that "it sounds so *poetic* and sad *and out of date*", to admit "you are trying to make something ideal". And Innes, shortlisted for the Turner Prize in 1995, has said defensively: "I don't see any harm in saying I'd quite like to create something that's beautiful to me."

Iris Murdoch, another patron of New Metaphysical Art, told the magazine *Modern Painters* in 1993: "There is a lot of terribly bad *art around which* isn't really art at all. There is a tendency to simplify, to offer a mere juxtaposition of objects. I think it is damaging to artists. People are lazy, they can't be bothered to learn difficult techniques, and they want to shock."

But the snort and the sneer can become bad habits. New Metaphysical Art is not just out to knock the current art fashions. It has a constructive agenda and intends to hold conferences, to develop a programme of research into the "current negative conditions for the creation of profound art and to sponsor the *commission of works of* meaning that will attempt to explore the metaphysical state of human nature at the end of the 20th century".

New artistic talent and style cannot of course be ushered in by verbal decree. But New Metaphysical Art *hopes to* "create an animating culture which will rekindle the inspirational conditions for the flowering of all the arts and a *climate of* questioning, reflection and appreciation in its audiences". The traditionalists are poised to storm the rebel citadels.

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JAZZ

WHEN the Polish composer Krzysztof Komeda was killed in an accident in 1969, at the age of 37, his loss was seen as a blow to the film world, for which he had provided a great many scores, most famously for Roman Polanski's *Knife in the Water* and *Rosemary's Baby*. If the loss is now felt just as keenly in the jazz world, his compatriot and former musical collaborator, the trumpeter **Tomasz Stanko**, should take some of the credit. On *Litania*, which has been widely hailed as one of the finest European jazz albums of recent years, he has made Komeda's music live again in its intended milieu: on the stand, as material for spontaneous re-creation and reinterpretation.

What was so impressive about the performance at the Jazz Café by Stanko and his collaborators — saxophonists Bernt Rosengren and Joakim Milder, pianist Bobo Stenson, bassist Palle Danielsson and drummer Jon Christensen — was the way in which they interpreted Komeda's music so as to accentuate all its considerable compositional qualities without compromising their own freedom.

Beginning with a haunting version of one of Komeda's most attractive themes, *Svantetic*, the sextet imbued it with all the grace, lyricism and plangent melancholy most commonly identified as Komeda's compositional hallmarks. Their solos, however, were very much their own. Rosengren brought a swirling, powerful warmth to the band sound; his fellow tenor player Milder, by contrast, was attractively sparse and dry. Stenson provided moments of mellifluous elegance, while Stanko himself, his solos filled with a woozy sincerity leavened alternately by the odd virtuosic run or his trademark smeared vocalisations, brought a highly individual, but entirely appropriate, cracked dignity to all he played.

CHRIS PARKER

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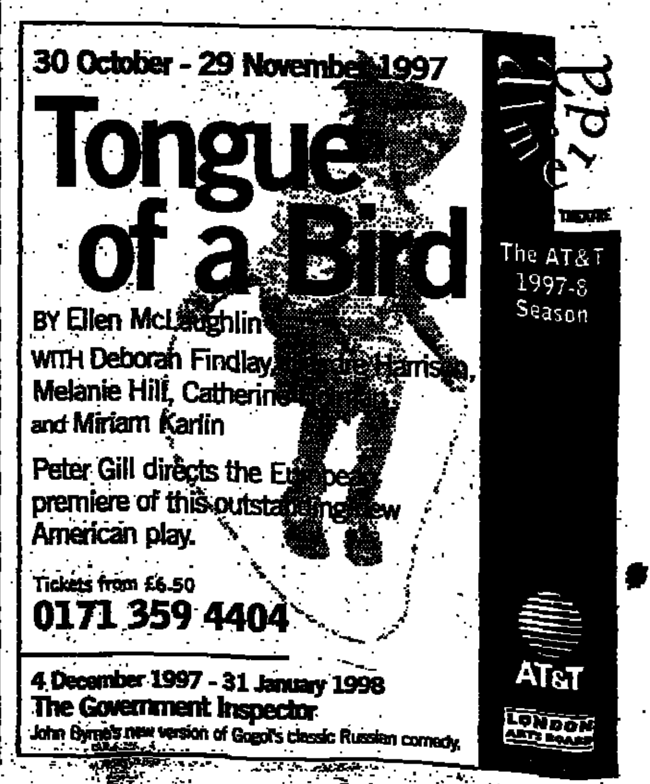

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It was a prospect to gladden the heart of all Waltonians: his concertos for violin, viola and cello, all within a single concert and conducted by one of Walton's most distinguished interpreters, André Previn. Any fears that it might all have been too much of a good thing were dispelled as Previn and his soloists — all of them London Symphony Orchestra section principals — realised the essential character of each work in turn.

The manuscript of the Viola Concerto (1928-29) was famously returned in the post by the leading violist of the day, Lionel Tertis, for whom it was written; he lived to regret his error, though not to record the work.

The concerto's prevailing mood, dictated largely by the nature of the solo instrument, is one of melancholy. Paul Silverthorne's dark-hued tone set the scene from the opening bars. The sprightly Scherzo movement is placed second (each of the concertos has one in a similar position) and there is a climactic point in the finale, but the closing bars return to the poignant reflections of the opening movement. Previn's reliable ear for balance allowed the delicate tones of Silverthorne's viola to penetrate the orchestral texture.

Walton's featherlight orchestration in the first movement of the much later Cello Concerto (1956) — vibraphone, celesta and harp all feature prominently — enables the soloist to engage in soliloquy unimpeded. The Scherzo is more robust, but soloist and orchestra often alternate and, where they overlap, Previn ensured that Tim Hugh had no difficulty making his presence felt.

In fact, Hugh was commanding not only in passages of quiet reverie, but also on the ecstatic heights to which the music rises in its latter stages. This was a beautifully controlled, finely expressive performance.

Finally came the Violin Concerto, in an eloquent reading by the LSO's leader, Alexander Barantschik. The work dates from a decade after the Viola Concerto, 1938-39, but the different nature of the solo instrument, perhaps coupled with the fact that it was written for Heifetz, resulted in a far more extrovert piece.

Paradoxically, the Violin Concerto is at the same time more virtuosic and more sweetly lyrical than its predecessor, and Barantschik's measured but always persuasive account did full justice to both qualities.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Songs of the heart

Philip Langridge
St John's

HOW to reinvent *Winterreise*? Schubert's last great song cycle is certainly getting the treatment lately, with zany recompositions, stagings, and even a film in the offing. To attempt, with the help of a fortepiano, to recreate something of the intense intimacy of that first performance when Schubert himself sang the songs to his friends "in a voice wrought with emotion" seems a modest undertaking by comparison.

Yet this, of course, is the fiercest challenge of all, and the tenor Philip Langridge and the pianist David Owen Norris met it head-on. Confronted with formal rows of strangers in the spacious acoustic of St John's, Smith Square, they drew us in against all odds. The fortepiano was a reproduction Stein with a rare breadth of dynamic range. Too rare at times: when the knee pedals went into action, the sudden hush was so extreme that the dream of a linden tree would all but vanish into thin air, and engagement with the voice was momentarily and disruptively lost.

This, though, is to carp. The icy brightness of the instrument, activated by Norris's minutely imagined playing, aptly lit the cycle's physical world, as a dark cloud drifitng through clear skies found new, staring definition in the shorter, stark resonance. And the night music of *Im Dorfe* took on new meaning: could that really be a little snore in the left hand as Schubert paints the sleeping village?

This, of course, all belongs to the outer world of *Winterreise*: the inner journey of the soul belonged to Langridge. He has come late to the work and, as one might imagine, there is not a trace of any Lieder-singing cliché or manner in his performance. It was, in the best sense of the word, acted out as tragedy, from the first intensely imagined dark sighing at the back of the voice, to the breathless desperation of the songs of frantic haste, where even rhythmic definition and intonation would be fleetingly sacrificed for the physicality of raw emotion.

A "voice wrought with emotion" would certainly make such sacrifices. And Langridge's determination to stretch the aching arpeggio of *Wasserflut* to overflowing, his ability to make the whole body ache with fatigue in *Rast*, and his withdrawal of all colour from the voice in the final song's spiritual snow-blindness — all made this a uniquely revelatory performance.

HILARY FINCH

MARILYN KINGWILL

Desmond Barrit and Eleanor Tremain in the revival of Arthur Miller's family tragedy

A star to outshine the Duke

A View from the Bridge
Greenwich

I have a theory that Arthur Miller's 1950s classic is really an old-fashioned western that failed to make it over the Brooklyn Bridge. Eddie Carbone is an Italian blue-collar version of John Wayne. He speaks slow, he treats his wife like wallpaper and he resents the two illegal immigrants from Sicily who camp in his flat while looking for work — especially the fair-haired Rodolpho who sings like a chorus girl, has an interest in clothes and hangs out with Catherine, his curvy, 17-year-old niece.

The raw drama of Miller's play is the awareness among all the characters of Eddie's unhealthy obsession with his own flesh and blood. His overprotective questions — "What's with the high heels, Garbo?" — start to smell gamey. His needling homophobia puts Robert Hands's resilient Rodolpho on the defensive. It is only minutes before he starts swinging.

What makes the showdown between Eddie and his daughter's new friends so compellingly lopsided, however, is that Desmond Barrit makes a far better fist of Eddie than John Wayne ever could.

Whatever illusions one may cherish about Barrit as a purely comic actor, scrap them now. He not only looks the part, he is the part. He is 280 pounds of sullen Brooklyn longshoreman and the set takes its cue from his permanently stained vest. A damp haze hangs around the slowly twirling fans and lonely lightshades. A sweaty steel wall suggests the side of a ship, while grubby wooden slats sketch the modest interior of the Carbone household.

We feast on the misery in Eddie's crumpled face as he waits on street corners or behind his newspaper for his niece to return with Rodolpho. We feel like voyeurs at the kitchen table watching Leslee Udwin's Beatrice scrabbling around in a lather of humiliation and fear at the naive niece who has unwittingly become her rival.

Drunk and desperate, Eddie suddenly kisses Rodolpho. It is amazing to think that this act caused the play to be closed down in London in 1956. Rachel Kavanaugh's period production makes too light of the moment. Barrit's sardonic snog fails to deliver any subversive charge of ambivalence, but the one he forces on Eleanor Tremain's vulnerable Catherine is loaded with frightening intent. A moment lost perhaps, but another gained.

The tension dutifully mounts. But, despite some extremely fine support from Oliver Haden's lugubrious immigrant Marco, who sends his pay packet back to his TB-infested family in Sicily, Miller's play is beginning to look its age. This is brought home by the character of the Brooklyn lawyer whom Miller elects to be our narrator and moral guide. Frank Lazarus has the patronising, irrelevant task of drawing our attention to the moral sentiments — a thankless role that has the added misfortune of making the play look like a museum piece.

It is to Barrit's undying merit that his emotional credibility survives such anachronisms. His is a towering performance in a strangely distant world.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

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Ham wrote Shakespeare, not Bacon

Vortigern
Bridewell

VORTIGERN? The name sounds almost familiar. Is he one of those ambassadors in *Hamlet* who get no chance to say anything because their roles are cut before the first rehearsal? Does he fit somewhere into *Cymbeline*, or how about some hapless king defeated by the mighty Tamburlaine?

None of these, although *Cymbeline* comes closest. He is the eponymous hero of a tragedy written by William Henry Ireland but purporting to be a long-lost work by Shakespeare. Presented at Drury Lane in 1796, it was laughed off the stage before the final curtain and has not been professionally performed since.

Bearing in mind that the production 201 years ago never managed to reach the climactic siege at the Tower of London — where the hero sees Death and is harrowed by conscience — it would be accurate to say that Joe Harmston's production at the Bridewell is the first professional production ever.

Ireland was only 17 when he started feeding the contemporary craze for Shakespeareana with forged sonnets, speeches and love letters to Anne Hathaway. His success encouraged young Ireland to try his hand at a full-length play. Sheridan was sufficiently convinced of its merits to pay £250 to stage it.

Mrs Siddons was engaged to play Queen Rowena but came to doubt the play's authenticity and withdrew. Vortigern himself was played by John Philip Kemble, but two days before the play opened the famous scholar Edmond Malone pricked the bubble of its reputation and the scene was set for a riotous premiere.

The audience enjoyed themselves shouting "*Richard III!*" and "*As You Like It!*" whenever they recognised Ireland's sources, but after Kemble delivered the line "And when this solemn mockery is ended," prolonged jeering brought the performance to an end.

So how good is it? Or how bad? Pretty bad. If it had fooled audiences of the time into believing it to be genuine, then it might interestingly show what Ireland's contemporaries were inclined to look for in their Shakespeare. But it did not so it cannot.

The plot? Thus it is. Britain's king, feeling frozen age doth fast approach, appoints the good and noble Vortigern to share the crown. Disasters follow. The king hies him to a balmy soft repose and is promptly murdered. Vortigern's wife is troubled by lack of sleep: "I'll to the poppy." Various children take to the woods, with or without an accompanying Fool.

But the play is a fascinating (because old) fraud. The reversals of war go on a bit, but Harmston directs the battles in elegant slow motion and finds a number of ways to animate the plot's frenzied developments. The cast speak the lines as if they were fine stuff, although Ireland had no idea how to build a speech that will tap genuine emotion.

James Simmons looks far too intelligent to have been content with Vortigern's impoverished thought, but he holds himself well and keeps a straight face. I would not have missed it.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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هكذا من الأصل

A portrait of a truly British vice

Angelica Goodden on Raeburn and our love for a likeness

The great Scottish portraitist Sir Henry Raeburn has arrived in London. The splendid exhibition of his work which opened on Friday at the National Portrait Gallery already looks likely to be greeted as enthusiastically as it was earlier this year in his native Edinburgh. We are well used to this kind of enthusiasm; but what can possibly account for the British love of portraiture?

It was so firmly established in Raeburn's time (1756-1823) that a contemporary remarked on how Britain had become a "scoff and byword among nations" on account of its obsession. In the civilised West, it is only the English-speaking nations that have national galleries specifically dedicated to portraiture: the three 19th-century institutions in London, Edinburgh and Dublin, and the 1960s afterthought in Washington. One wonders what special self-regard has fostered the art of portraiture here, while leaving it comparatively untended in state collections elsewhere. Or is self-regard not really the point at issue?

It would surely be absurd to suggest that the form of vanity which portrait-painting flatters is peculiar to Western anglophone nations, or that these countries have a stronger sense of the value of the self than their neighbours: although a case of this sort could probably be made in philosophical terms. Portraitists such as Allan Ramsay and Raeburn were greatly influenced by the British tradition of philosophical empiricism, with its emphasis on the issues of personal identity, even if most of their clients were not. But when Ramsay — commissioned by David Hume — painted the Swiss Rousseau, the author of the greatest work of literary self-depiction in the French language objected strongly to the result. This was partly owing to his conviction that he alone possessed the key to his personality, but also because the power of visual images never impressed him.

The British fondness for portraiture seemed indecent to other foreigners, too. Grand Tourists shocked their Italian hosts by insisting on having their likenesses captured before they absorbed the greater artistic treasures awaiting their attention. Italian portraitists never made serious money from their own countrymen.

If native philosophy and vanity were not the sole causes of this preoccupation with visual biography, the ideological climate of the 18th century may account for it in another way. Britain had never promoted self-effacement as a moral and religious ideal as tenaciously as other cultures. Nor, once the days of iconoclasm were past, did it fear the ungodly implications of creating an afterlife through paint: for most sitters, portraiture was a down-to-earth commemorative act. Its very pragmatism, of course, explained both its popularity among ordinary clients — it was affordable and at home in middle-class surroundings — and its vilification. It was *too* middle-class for some tastes, and too British, utterly divorced from the elevation of the "grand manner".

The portraitist Sir Joshua Reynolds, although knighted and elected President of the Royal Academy in London, was uneasy about portraiture's lack of dignity, and referred his fellow artists to the more glorious historical mode favoured by the French.

History painting may have seemed to some a fitter way to celebrate the essence of the nation, recording great deeds of the past, but it never appealed to the British: as Blake remarked, it condemned the artist to a diet of bread, apples and perpetual frustration. History painting lacks intimacy and hence approachability; it can hardly be collected and hung in the home.

Yet the 19th-century founders of national portrait galleries were convinced that portraiture had a public role to play, too. Such galleries may have been created to exalt individuals, but it was for thoroughly moral reasons: Palmerston remarked at the time of the National Portrait Gallery's foundation in London that seeing portraits of people who have done commendable deeds is the greatest possible incentive to mental exertion, noble action and good conduct. The trustees, perversely, also thought that portraits of villains and criminals might serve an instructive purpose. Both views, of course, now seem hopelessly naive, although the idea that images of the great and good may inspire and edify the beholder remains a very potent one. It is merely unfortunate that worthiness, like other abstract qualities, is hard to depict in paint.

Only the English-speaking nations have national portrait galleries

Raeburn was supremely skilled at capturing men and women — usually minor nobility and gentry — in the ordinary occurrences of life, where the distinctive features of character and psychology emerge most clearly. He also managed to convey the Enlightenment belief in the absolute clarity of the individual. The sharply delineated profile figure of the Rev Robert Walker skating, for instance, is as serenely autonomous as any modern in-line skater weaving through city traffic, if less threatened by his surroundings. But seen together, Raeburn's subjects illustrate the ideal blend of independence and the collective spirit, private rights and social values, that is also a major preoccupation of the present day. They are, additionally, a Scottish band, and their unassertive strength makes them worthy images of the new Scottish independence. In Raeburn, portraiture becomes modern history.

Dr Goodden's book The Sweetness of Life: A Biography of Elisabeth Louise Vigée Lebrun *was reviewed in* The Times *on October 9.*

Currency speculators who underestimate Beijing's political will are taking a dangerous gamble

The dragon standing behind Hong Kong

Traditionalist though lawyers are, little Anglo-Norman law French survives in the late 20th century. It can, however, still be found in the Royal Assent to Acts of Parliament. Some conventional phrases survived well into the 18th century; when counsel rose to reply on behalf of the defendant in a civil case, he would open with the words, "*moy semble al contrary*", "it seems to me to the contrary". I feel like that about the Hong Kong panic in almost all respects.

It is assumed that this crisis shows the weakness of Hong Kong: I believe it shows Hong Kong's strength. It is assumed that this is essentially a stock market panic; in fact, it is a bear raid on a currency. It is assumed that the issue is financial; in truth, it is political. It is assumed that this is a local issue; it is a world issue. In the United States, some people are arguing that the loss in Hong Kong will be a gain to America; what has been happening is at least as great a threat to the United States, not to mention Europe, as it is to Hong Kong and China. Most of the common assumptions are false. "*Moy semble al contrary*" indeed, but more significantly "*Chinois semble al contrary*" — It looks different to China.

Currency speculators who think that the Hong Kong dollar is going to be devalued against the US dollar are thinking financially. By their lights, all fixed currency alignments are vulnerable, because no two economies will permanently move in a synchronised way. Nigel Lawson's experiment of shadowing the mark resulted in the boom of the late 1980s; John Major's experiment of joining the exchange-rate mechanism aggravated the recession of the early 1990s. The needs of the British and German economies moved in opposite directions at different times. This is a good argument against the Hong Kong dollar being permanently fixed to the American, and an even stronger argument against the European single currency, but it is not going to decide what happens in the next five years.

The speculators have failed to see the issue from the Chinese point of view. October is only the fourth month since China took over the sovereignty of Hong Kong. If Hong Kong were now forced to devalue, that would be more than a loss of face for China, it would be a political defeat. It would show that China was not able to maintain international confidence in Hong Kong; that would damage Hong Kong as a financial centre and China's political authority. In these circumstances, the Chinese Government was bound to act as Chancellor Kohl did when he aligned the East German currency at one-to-one with the West. They put politics ahead of economic theory. I expect President Jiang Zemin will make that clear to the Americans on this week's visit.

The speculators are therefore taking China on as well as Hong Kong. If Hong Kong had still been under British sovereignty, the limit of the reserves would have been those of Hong Kong itself. There would have been no question of the Bank of England — which was not strong enough to keep the pound in the ERM — intervening to preserve the Hong Kong dollar. Hong Kong's ability to maintain the link to the US dollar is now incomparably stronger than it was under British rule. Stronger by the $130 billion of China's foreign exchange reserves, and stronger from the support of China's political will. Speculators sometimes understand finance; they often misunderstand political forces.

It is widely believed that the Hong Kong stock market is, or was, too high. Hong Kong property prices are high; the authorities, who aim to build 85,000 new apartments, want to make sure that they go no higher. Yet a glance at the FT/S&P Actuaries World Indices for last Friday shows what the real situation is. Of the 28 stock markets listed, Hong Kong-China has the second highest dividend yield. Only Thailand is higher, and the Thai economy, unlike that of Hong Kong, is in real trouble. The United Kingdom has a respectable yield of 3.4 per cent; the United States has only 1.6; Germany has 1.4; Hong Kong-China has 4.2.

William Rees-Mogg

Hong Kong offers two or three times the investment values of the US market. China is the lowest cost and the fastest growing of the large industrial economies; 80 per cent of Hong Kong's exports are re-exports from China, based on Chinese labour costs. Hong Kong has a real GDP growth of 5.5 per cent; China has 10 per cent, three times that of America. Hong Kong and China together have a current account surplus, and a ratio of debt to GDP, of about 12 per cent, a tenth of Italy's. The Chinese are entering a period of moderate reflation of the economy, and probably have two decades before their economy reaches the problems of full industrial maturity. China now has a $40 billion trade surplus with America.

Apart from the high dividend yield, Hong Kong's prospective price-earnings ratio is now only about ten times, or less than half that of America. To match Hong Kong's price-earnings ratio, the Dow Jones index would have to fall well below 4,000; to match the dividend yield, it would have to fall below 3,000. Yet Hong Kong has much better growth prospects. On any basis of valuation, Hong Kong shares are better value and safer to hold. If, as some Americans believe, there should be a panic flight of portfolio investment from Hong Kong to the United States, that would take investors out of the simmering pot into the fiery furnace.

There is a warning for the rest of the world. China-Hong Kong is the world's largest and strongest developing economy, with a good expectation of quadrupling in size over the next 15 to 20 years. Yet even Hong Kong last week suffered a serious speculative attack on the currency, which forced higher interest rates and created a stock exchange panic. About 90 per cent of all foreign exchange transactions in the world are now speculative; the central banks do not have enough money to cope with that. If this can happen to Hong Kong, what could happen to other countries with real problems?.

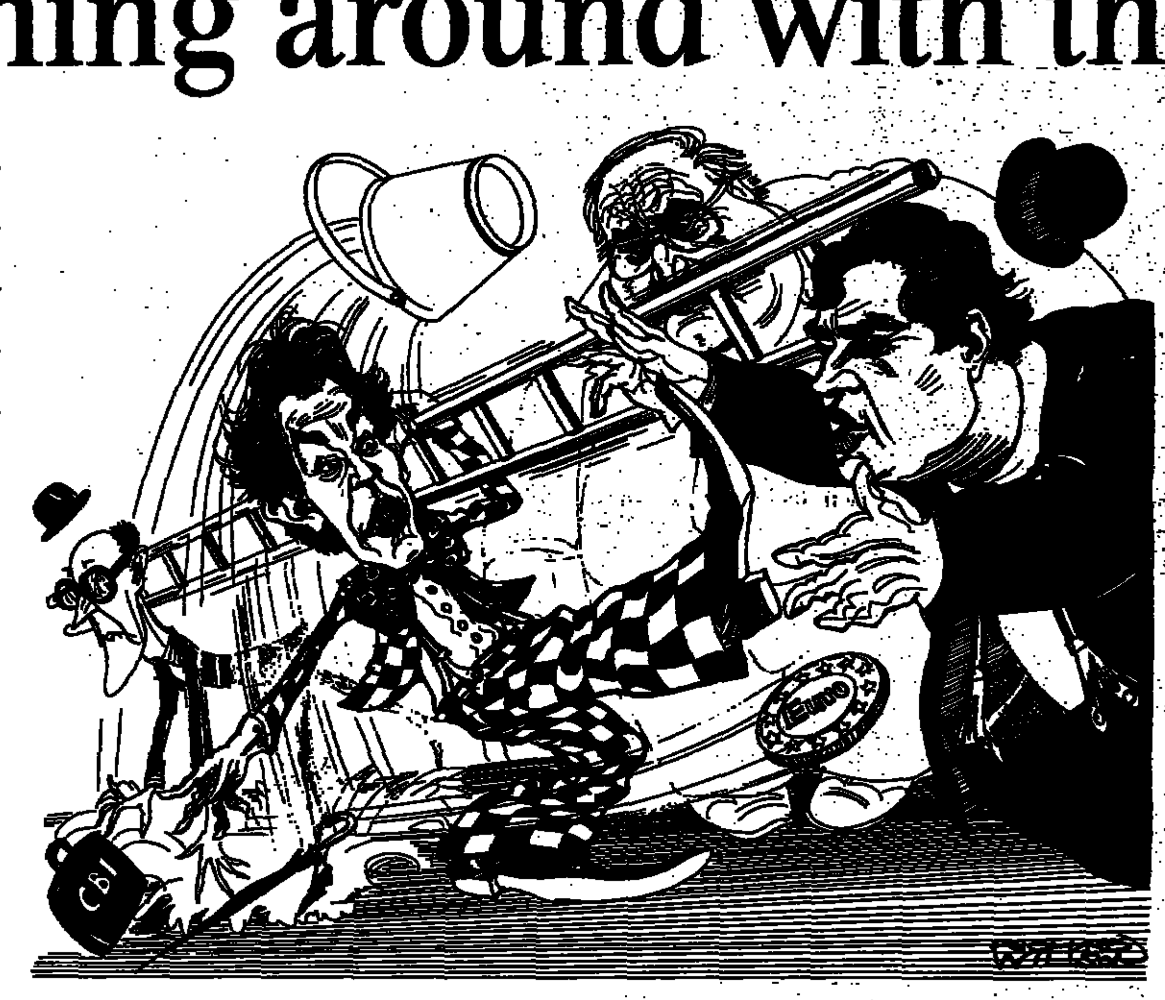
The United States is probably near the end of a long, cyclical recovery, and Wall Street is higher than in 1929; the European Union is still deflating in order to merge the currencies of countries with unemployment averaging more than 10 per cent, and reaching over 20. South-East Asia has blown its financial fuses. All these economies are more vulnerable than China-Hong Kong. In such a world, one may wonder where future expansion will come from. Deflationary and speculative forces are stronger than the forces of expansion or stability. All the major regional economies have serious structural flaws.

Nothing important now happens in the global system without affecting every part of it. It is an ungoverned system; there is no world economic authority capable of controlling irrational speculation. China-Hong Kong is probably the most competitive economy on earth, with its best decades ahead of it. Eventually, the Chinese will drop the dollar peg for Hong Kong, when the dollar no longer seems a good enough currency; the political will of China intends that should not happen in the next five years. This political will, both in Hong Kong and in China, seems almost unlimited; it is hubris for speculators to bet against the rising economic power of the 21st century when the world is so close to the new century beginning. That is like betting against Britain in 1800, or the United States in 1900. One should always show respect to the rising sun.

Clowning around with the euro

Mr Blair must learn from the single-currency debacle, says

Peter Riddell



Tony, I was told by a member of the Blair inner circle, is "well aware what a disaster it's been". No wonder Tony Blair has appeared distracted at the Commonwealth summit. The confusion and recriminations of the past ten days have been about much more than the European single currency, crucially important though that is. They have exposed damaging flaws in the way that the Government is run.

For all the self-congratulatory talk in summer about a smooth transition, too many ministers and advisers have yet to make a full adjustment. They are behaving as if they were still in Opposition when media management and words mattered more than decisions. It is too often forgotten how many members of the Cabinet, including very senior ones, have not only never been ministers before, they have never had to take executive decisions of any kind.

That problem has been reinforced by the exclusive style of new Labour leaders operating like a revolutionary cadre on Leninist lines with a centralised structure. Policy comes from the top after being settled informally by Mr Blair and Gordon Brown in their frequent talks, rather than collectively. Mr Brown and his advisers have become adept at leaking new initiatives, often in a harder form than had been endorsed by the Shadow Cabinet; in effect bouncing colleagues.

All these traits have surfaced in the single currency saga. The statement that appeared in Mr Brown's interview in *The Times* nine days ago was agreed informally just with Mr Blair. Other key ministers were not involved in the wording of what was an interim statement in response to press stories that week. It was essentially an exercise in spinning; the report about single currency membership being ruled out before the next election fairly reflected what was said, but it is only part of the story. Media advisers and spinners tend to oversimplify. The distinction between a forecast that Britain would probably not enter in this Parliament, and a decision that it would not, disappeared. *The Sun* has claimed that Charlie Whelan, the Chancellor's press officer, suggested the headline "Brown Saves Pound". That would have been a ludicrous distortion.

As will be clear from Mr Brown's statement to the Commons this afternoon, the true position is more

[redacted]

subtle. There has been little real disagreement at the top of the Government. No one has seriously been urging entry in 1999. Recently, there has been an acceptance that the divergence between the British and continental economies may last until 2000. Mr Blair is reluctant to take risks over his re-election to a second term by holding a referendum on a single currency then. Hence, entry is unlikely in this Parliament. The argument has been about whether this should be firmly ruled out, or merely described as unlikely. However, the activities of the spinners may have made the latter politically impossible without undermining Mr Brown. To reassure the pro-Europeans, the Chancellor will say that business should use the "period of stability" to prepare for later entry, and he will not rule out the key date of 2002, when the euro comes into full operation. This would also allow time for public opinion to be won round. A referendum could be held soon after an election in 2001, depending on whether economies have converged.

This position — cautious, but not unconditional, support for monetary union — has so far been obscured. The position is not irreversible, but serious damage has been done. Two of Mr Blair's key pre-election priorities were to create a new relationship between Labour and business and to give a leading role for Britain in Europe. Both have been jeopardised.

Mr Brown's previously unchallengeable authority has been severely shaken. He will have to live for a long time with last Monday's picture of the Stock Exchange board with red minus signs. Nonetheless, he remains a pivotal figure in new Labour, its intellectual heavyweight, matching Peter Mandelson's skills as a political operator. The word from the Blair camp, not least from Mr Mandelson, is that "Gordon must be supported". Mr Brown prefers operating with a close group of loyal advisers who often seem apart from the Treasury. Senior officials claim they are not listened to and do not know what the Chancellor wants (the same complaint is also heard in the Foreign Office). But Mr Brown needs to be more trusting and integrate his inner group more with the Treasury.

There are lessons also for Mr Blair in developing a more coherent process of policy formation. He likes informal discussions in his little office next to the Cabinet Room. But the absence of formal records of meetings can produce ambiguities about where he stands and what was decided — which, in part, fuelled the single-currency confusion. Although Mr Blair is in a commanding position in his Cabinet, even some of his strongest supporters have recently complained about being excluded. Correcting this is as much political prudence as constitutional propriety.

Spinning also needs to be separated from policymaking. In Opposition, media management is the priority. But good government depends on considered policymaking rather than rapid rebuttal. Spinners should present, not make, policy.

Above all, Mr Blair needs to recognise that if he is to fulfil what he says about leading in Europe, he will make enemies. He cannot both be pro-European and sceptic enough to retain the backing of a populist nationalist paper like *The Sun*. He and his advisers are too worried about losing such support. Even if entry in 1999 was not on, the Government might still have won a referendum later in the Parliament, and reshaped Britain's relations with Europe, and possibly also the British political landscape. Mr Blair may look back on October 1997 as a missed opportunity.

Last dance

APPRAISING young things wafting around in tights is no longer a priority of the Minister without Portfolio, Peter Mandelson: he has resigned from the board of governors of English National Ballet.

Members of the company are said to be bitterly disappointed at Mandelson's decision to step down only 18 months after he was appointed, the full term of office being three years. "He felt that he no longer had enough time for us after he became a minister," says a deflated deputy director, Richard Shaw. "It came as rather a surprise because he clearly relished the role and considered it an enormous honour."

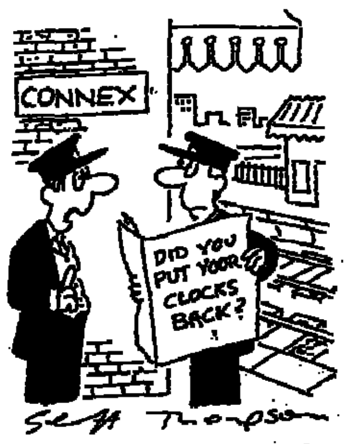
Some suggest that Mandelson was deeply distressed by the death of the company's patron, Diana, Princess of Wales. The pair met through the company and hit it off when they sat next to each other at a dinner at St James's Palace.

The Princess also had lunch with Mandelson the day her divorce became absolute. It is thought that she once suggested to the Royal Family that it should employ the mercurial minister to improve its image. Foolishly, they ignored her.

Mandelson still enjoys observing a pirouette or a pas de deux but says that since becoming a minister, the position might prompt suggestions that he had a conflict of interest.

Casting has already begun to find a replacement for the board, whose 14 surviving members include the likes of the presenter Angela Rippon, and Pamela Lady Harlech, social etiquette lecturer to the boys of Downside School.

"We'd like to get another MP on the board," says Shaw, "preferably one who likes ballet."


CONNEX
DID YOU PUT YOUR CLOCKS BACK?
Seff Thompson

"All of our trains are running on time now"

Final edition

THAT right-wing thinker John O'Sullivan, a confidant of Baroness Thatcher, has told staff at the *National Review* in New York that he will be stepping down soon after nine years as Editor of the conservative journal. He is thinking of writing a book on multiculturalism, national identity and "The American Question". Should keep him busy.

Size matters

THEY have extravagant tastes, these baronets. Sir John Baddeley, an accountant, has fallen foul of Horsham District Council for building too big a garage. Baddeley, who lists destructive gardening among his hobbies in *Who's Who*, faces enforcement action for, quite simply, destroying too much of his garden.

Still worse is the animosity of his neighbours, a Mr and Mrs Munn, who have been monitoring proceedings from their frosted-glass windows. "We look out of our sitting room and see this enormous roof," says Mrs Munn, whose husband Ronald is a local magistrate.

Sir John, hiding out in his London office, is unrepentant. "The rules are for people with little cars," he says. "We've got a big Volvo estate."

THE TIMES DIARY

Huw and cry

BRUISED egos are moping around Millbank, the BBC's Westminster HQ. Huw Edwards, of *Newsnight*, is to become chief political correspondent at the Beeb's News 24, the round-the-clock news channel. So what? Well, the BBC already has a chief political correspondent, that old heart-throb John Sergeant. And he is not happy.

"Politicians will think that Edwards has replaced John," says a sympathiser. "John may not look like Brad Pitt, but he is a bloody good operator."

Slim chance

IN A spirited attempt to control his fluctuating waistline, the Prime Minister has imported a rowing-machine into his bedroom at No 11. The device — an ugly, greyish thing which emits strange hissing noises — is designed to flatten out paunches such as Blair developed during a summer spent grazing on foie gras and wild-boar ravioli in Tuscany.

"He told me that he'd installed a machine by his bed," says Sue Walker, a gold medallist rower and recent guest at No 11. "He seemed very interested in rowing." Well he might be. A half-hour session on his new machine burns up 200 calories — equivalent to just one spoonful of his beloved pasta.

● *TWEAKING with staff timetables has failed to raise the profile of John Birt over at the BBC. A bod from* Classical Music *magazine, telephoning the BBC in pursuit of Birt's photograph, was surprised to be asked: "Which programme does he work on?"*

A date in Rotterdam: Francis Maude and Posh Spice

Rock on, it's Dry Spice

THE Purcell-loving Francis Maude, Tory culture spokesman, is the latest victim of the Conservatives' attempts to appear hip.

Known as "Dry Spice" in the Shadow Cabinet, Maude has been cajoled into attending next month's MTV Europe Music Awards in Rotterdam, where the Spice Girls, Oasis and Prodigy are tipped to win awards. Normally one to stand by any winning flag, the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, is not attending. He blames boring old parliamentary business.

Maude's friends are astonished. "I thought Francis preferred a night in with a 19th-century novel but now I hear he has acquired an Oasis album," said one.

There is a small problem. Maude was due to have a congenial supper with that old Tory grandee, Sir Archibald Hamilton. "Archie is not a man to alienate," says a Maude associate fearfully. But just think of the prize, Maudey (and wear some headphones).

JASPER GERARD

NO MEANS NO

Brown must offer a single message

It may be a chastened Chancellor who rises this afternoon to clarify policy on the single currency, but Gordon Brown should not be repentant. His interview in *The Times* nine days ago was an honest attempt to end speculation about entry to EMU. Since then, mixed messages from the heart of government have betrayed an unhappiness among ministers with a stance of such clarity. Several senior figures in Tony Blair's administration want it to be resolute for indecision, firm for flexibility. But Mr Brown recognised last week that keeping the option to enter at any time, far from showing prudence, would lead to paralysis.

Mr Brown spoke out because he did not want to see this Government, like its predecessors, weakened by endless speculation about the timing of entry into a European monetary system. The fundamentals have not changed over the past nine days and neither need his stance. Mr Brown does not want the energy of this administration dissipated by a focus on one European adventure at the expense of a broader programme of reform. A Government with ambitions to reform welfare, improve education and modernise the health service, should not hazard all on such an enterprise. It would be a momentous step to surrender control of the central levers of economic policy at any time, but to contemplate doing so during this Parliament would be folly; the triumph of integrationist ideology over genuine pragmatism.

Industry may be unhappy with sterling's current strength but the level of the pound reflects, among other things, the divergence between economic cycles in Britain and on the Continent. Even those committed to eventual entry must recognise that greater convergence is an absolute precondition and not only in the relative health of economies but in their structures. The economies of our European partners must learn from Britain's supply side reforms of the last two decades and liberalise further if the single currency is not to impose unacceptable strains on them which would render the whole project even more hazardous.

None of these developments is a sufficient condition for British entry but they are, even for honest advocates of integration, absolutely necessary. It would be foolhardy to assume that any satisfactory judgment on either of these points, let alone sufficient progress in other areas, could be made in the lifetime of this Parliament. Once that assessment about timing is made then there is no profit in keeping it private. A Government which recognises that it would be dangerous to embark on early entry should not leave any doubt in the minds of others. Those opposed to this policy must not be allowed to promote further ambiguity. With candour can come confidence.

Some in the Government may argue that Mr Brown has little to lose if he leaves a small space for doubt. It has been suggested that the Chancellor might announce that he will review Britain's prospects for entry annually. Leaving aside the damage to the credibility of a minister who would have been seen to retreat from a position so recently staked out, such a course would only institutionalise instability. Every review would be preceded by the speculation in the press and on the markets, which Mr Brown is so anxious to banish. The price of maintaining a notional flexibility on the euro would be the forfeiture of the freedom to concentrate on more pressing matters.

It is not necessary to oppose the single currency on principle to appreciate the wisdom of opting out now. Mr Brown's statement will, inevitably, reflect his desire to take Britain in, if at all possible, at another opportunity. The steps to make such entry easier will be spelt out with some enthusiasm. Many of them will be prudent in themselves. They should not, however, overshadow the most important message Mr Brown must communicate in terms which leave no doubt in the markets or among voters — the pound will not be abolished in this Parliament. No must mean no.

LOCKERBIE AWAITS JUSTICE

Cook cannot compromise with Gaddafi

Jim Swire, a spokesman for the British relatives of those killed in the Lockerbie bombing, yesterday voiced their frustration with the impasse over prosecuting the indicted Libyans. Using the occasion of a Commonwealth summit in Scotland, he called for a trial in a third country — probably at the International Court of Justice in The Hague — as a way of getting the two accused before a court. His distress is understandable. It is now nine years since the plane was brought down. Yet the world has been unable to persuade Colonel Gaddafi to send the two men for trial in Scotland or America. The two Governments and the Libyan leader have been waiting for each other to give way first.

President Mandela echoed Dr Swire's call at the weekend, but for very different reasons. He arrived in Edinburgh straight from Tripoli, where he was courted by Colonel Gaddafi, shamelessly exploiting the prestige of a visit by Africa's leading statesman. Mr Mandela insisted that he was only carrying a message. He did not claim that there could be no fair trial in Scotland.

He has allowed the Libyan dictator to make mischief and issue propaganda as a diversion from the real issue: the extradition of those accused of the crime of mass murder. It is consistent with his preposterous claim last month that British Intelligence arranged the car crash that killed Diana, Princess of Wales, and Dodi Fayed, because Mr Fayed was of Libyan origin. He said he would hand over the Lockerbie suspects when Britain handed over its unnamed intelligence officers.

Robin Cook sensibly invited Dr Swire to discuss the case. The gulf between the embittered relatives and the Government is unfortunate and unnecessary. They believe they have been caught in a political cover-up over the origins of the plot against Pan Am, and say that Britain should break ranks with America and agree to a trial in The Hague. Mr Cook explained, privately and publicly, the very real obstacles to such a plan. A trial could hardly be held under Scots law without a Scottish jury. Such a jury could not really be selected and then sequestered abroad, possibly for months.

A Scottish court with a Dutch jury would be a "Tower of Babel" without any proper knowledge of procedure, Mr Cook noted. His final compelling argument is simple realpolitik: the American Government and most relatives of the American victims — who were the majority — would never agree. The Americans hold the bulk of the crucial evidence: without their co-operation no convictions would be possible.

The stalemate has gone on far too long. Mr Cook is right to look for new ideas and insist that he is not rejecting a proposed compromise simply out of dogma. He must make it clear to the relatives that there is no political cover-up, and open for them any evidence linking the bombing with an Iranian revenge attack. He is also right to listen to Mr Mandela and use him to attempt some fresh dialogue with Colonel Gaddafi when he calls in again on Tripoli on his return. On the central point, however, Mr Cook cannot shift: a Scottish court can deliver impartial justice. The accused must face their accusers, and if Libya continues to block this proper course it must face the threat not simply of prolonged sanctions but of increased sanctions.

WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Villeneuve's victory caps a classic season for Formula One

Motor racing desperately needed the season that concluded with the European Grand Prix yesterday. The sport had become dangerously predictable. The contest for the championship had lost its excitement. Man seemed to be secondary to the quality of the machine. The quest for technical perfection appeared to have eclipsed the human element. Even Murray Walker was beginning to sound restrained. Formula One risked becoming tedium at 200 miles per hour.

The showdown between Jacques Villeneuve and Michael Schumacher could scarcely have been more exciting. The Canadian's Williams and the German's Ferrari have fought an intense battle all season. The means by which Schumacher left the race — and attempted to take his opponent with him — will be the source of enduring controversy. Nonetheless, as Gilles Villeneuve, the new champion's late father, once observed, motor racing is a body contact sport. It is all the more ironic that Villeneuve Sr met his untimely death on the track 15 years ago while in a Ferrari. He never had the chance to secure the crown now held by his son. This is a highly improbable sport to have a hereditary class. But Jacques Villeneuve now follows Damon Hill in that regard.

The contest has been sharpened by the characters of the leading contenders. Villeneuve, like his father, is in the flamboyant tradition of an era past. Until the entirely atypical outbreak of caution on the last lap, his style in the European Grand Prix had been that of his whole season. Villeneuve either comes first or crashes out. Anything else is the real accident. His triumph has echoes of the enthralling title secured by James Hunt — "Hunt the shunt" — 20years ago. Hunt never came close to winning again. Villeneuve will have that opportunity.

Schumacher, like Nikki Lauda in the 1970s, is the complete professional. He has taken an unreliable Ferrari to the brink of the title. He is paid approximately £1,000,000 per race and his team has had value for its money. He was let down by his car again yesterday. Even in defeat, he has nailed the myth that the driver is an irrelevance in modern motor racing. Damon Hill, unceremoniously sacked by a Williams outfit who apparently believed precisely that, will have taken some pleasure in his old rival's performance.

Formula One will now pack up for a few fleeting months. Villeneuve and Schumacher will resume their rivalry again next year. Ferrari, after 18 years in the cold, may at last take the championship. Williams will attempt to maintain its superiority. Damon Hill will start with a new team and the support of the British public. This sport of playboys and professionals, on yesterday's form, will be all the better for it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Public opinion as key to EMU entry

From Sir Michael Palliser and others

Sir, One of the key considerations in the Government's decision about when and if Britain should join the single currency is apparently whether the public would, after the issues had been fully discussed, endorse entry in a referendum. On current evidence, with industry, business and trade unions united around a positive position on EMU, such a referendum could and would be won.

The single currency has the potential to be a popular change. Contrary to some reports, recent polling shows rising numbers open to persuasion about the merits of EMU membership. A Gallup poll for the European Movement in July showed 74 per cent of people could be persuaded of the merits of British participation in 1999. Only 19 per cent were opposed in principle.

A campaign in favour of the single currency which brought together business, trade unions, and politicians of all parties would be a powerful combination. Certainly, fear of hostility from certain sections of the press should not be allowed to stand in the way of a decision to join EMU as soon as practicable.

Yours etc,
MICHAEL PALLISER (Chairman),
GEOFFREY HOWE,
ROY HATTERSLEY,
GILES RADICE,
CHRISTOPHER TUGENDHAT,
ALAN WATSON,
STEPHEN WOODARD,
SHIRLEY WILLIAMS,
European Movement Advisory Council,
52 Horseferry Road, SW1.
October 24.

From Sir Michael Spicer, MP for Worcestershire West (Conservative)

Sir, Your otherwise excellent leader of October 20, "Ins and outs", contains one error, namely its reference to "the requirement for unanimity on most of the major decisions of economic governance under the treaties of Rome, Maastricht and Amsterdam".

It is true that the Rome and Maastricht treaties demand such unanimity. Amsterdam, however, contains a "flexibility clause" designed to allow the most federalist countries to forge ahead without the consent of more reluctant countries. Moreover, any State judged by the other governments to be guilty of a human rights infraction can have *all* its voting rights suspended without appeal to any judicial body whatever.

Taken together, these two clauses amount to the decommissioning of the national veto.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL SPICER,
House of Commons.
October 20.

From Dr P. Glaister

Sir, For my part, I am hoping that the EMU native to Europe will display the same characteristics as its antipodean namesake. Despite a profuse amount of flapping, it never succeeds in getting off the ground.

Yours faithfully,
P. GLAISTER,
3 Instow Road,
Earley, Reading, Berkshire.
p.glaister@reading.ac.uk
October 23.

Not me, guv!

From Mr Geoff Hoon, MP for Ashfield (Labour)

Sir, Since I spent the summer helping to prepare the Government's plans for fundamental reform of the legal system, I was surprised to discover that I had been "fingered" as a suspected source of the great Euro-leak ("The case of the murderous messenger", October 25).

No caution was given. No rights read. My statement was not tape-recorded. Am I still presumed innocent before the court of *The Times*? It was not me, guv!

I will not get a conditional fee for my defence. Legal aid will still be available. I am sure that lots of lawyers will see my defence as an excellent opportunity to show their approval of the Government's plans for law reform.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFF. HOON
(Parliamentary Secretary,
Lord Chancellor's Department),
House of Commons.
October 26.

Caught on camera

From Mr Jonathan Robson

Sir, Mr Tim Jackson (letter, October 22) suggests that drivers tailgated by others attempting to bully their way past should point a video camera at them to make them back off.

May I suggest an alternative for those who have no camera. Simply pull into the next lane to the left, thus allowing the driver who wishes to travel faster to pass.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN ROBSON,
Girt House,
Burton Bradstock, Bridport, Dorset.
October 22.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046, e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

'Living wills' offer voice to the dying

From the General Secretary of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society

Sir, Mr Gerard Wright, QC (letter, October 22), says that advanced directives ("living wills") are "much cherished" by this society.

Patients already have a common law right to refuse treatment contemporaneously even though that may hasten death. In recent years it has been recognised through case law that this right has been extended to include an advance refusal of treatment by way of an advance directive. This has been acknowledged by the British Medical Association, amongst others. The Law Commission's draft Mental Incapacity Bill seeks to clarify the existing situation in the interest of patients and their doctors.

Doctors frequently make decisions to withhold or withdraw treatment from gravely ill patients with or without their consent, as it is thought more humane that they be allowed to die. However, I believe it is important that patients should have the opportunity to make their wishes known. This is only always possible if they draw up an advance directive while *compos mentis*, to take effect should they lose the ability to make decisions.

In my experience many people, particularly the elderly, are given great comfort by signing and lodging an advance directive with their doctor. It is estimated that about half a million people in the United Kingdom have them.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN OLIVER,
General Secretary,
The Voluntary Euthanasia Society,
13 Prince of Wales Terrace, W8.
October 22.

From Lady Engle

Sir, Mr Wright is clearly wrong.

If I am unconscious, it seems unlikely that I will "die in agony" when deprived of hydration.

People making advance directives are asked to update them (by means of a sticker) each year. And, in any case, the form only becomes valid "[if] two independent physicians (one a consultant) are of the opinion that I am unlikely to recover from illness or impairment involving severe distress or incapacity for rational existence". When the time comes, the two doctors will obviously take account of the current state of medical science.

Living wills are not part of "the culture of death", but part of a culture that allows individuals the choice of not being kept alive artificially in a state of degeneration and indignity. The Lord Chancellor's intention to introduce legislation to give legal validity to living wills represents real progress.

Yours sincerely,
IRENE ENGLE,
32 Wood Lane, Highgate, N6.
October 22.

From the Director of the Natural Death Centre

Sir, Mr Wright states that "there are strong grounds for believing that ... [a] person who is deprived of hydration ... will die in agony".

A study by Andrews and Levine published in 1989 (see *Creative Endings*, Natural Death Centre, p33) indicates the contrary: 82 per cent of the nurses surveyed disagreed with the statement that dehydration is painful for terminal patients; 71 per cent agreed that dehydration reduced the incidence of vomiting; 51 per cent reported a relief from choking and drowning sensations when fluids are discontinued; and 53 per cent agreed that dehydration can be beneficial for terminal patients.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS ALBERY, Director,
The Natural Death Centre,
20 Heber Road, NW2.
October 22.

From Dr Peggy Norris, Chairman of Alert

Sir, Mr B. J. Mitchell's suggestion (letter, October 20) that "mercy killing" should be a different offence from murder discriminates against the mentally incapacitated and the senile. Such discrimination has already been taking place since the law lords' judgment in the case of Tony Bland (February 4, 1993).

Since then, 11 more severely disabled patients have been caused to die by the withdrawal of food and fluids, thus destroying England's record of protecting every citizen. There is evidence that other people too have died in this way, without their cases being heard in court. When 85-year-old Mrs Mary Ormerod died in a nursing home in 1995 she weighed under four stone, her special food having been stopped on the orders of the doctor.

Restoring the law on homicide which was altered by the Bland judgment is a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully,
PEGGY NORRIS,
Chairman, Alert,
Information on Euthanasia,
27 Walpole Street, SW3.
October 21.

Cold War propaganda

From Mr Michael Nelson

Sir, I agree with Robert Elphick (letter, October 24), that the Information Research Department (IRD) ought to be given due recognition for its sterling service in counteracting communist propaganda.

One of the reasons the IRD has not received the recognition it deserves is the common view that propaganda is a pejorative term. This view is held today by many in the BBC. But at the height of the Cold War the BBC well understood that there was nothing reprehensible in drawing on IRD material for use in the propaganda war the BBC was itself engaged in.

In the late 1940s Sir Ian Jacob, then Director of the Overseas Service of the BBC and later to become Director-General, wrote:

> It is evident that any country deciding to embark on a service of broadcasts to foreign audiences does so because it wants to influence those audiences in its favour. All such broadcasting is therefore propaganda.

Ten years later, shortly before he became Director-General, Sir Hugh Greene devoted much of an address to the Nato Defence College in Paris on psychological warfare to a description of the BBC and propaganda. He did not hesitate to use the word propaganda frequently.

As we celebrate the BBC's 75th birthday we should not fail to recognise the BBC's outstanding service in helping to bring down communism through propaganda.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NELSON
(Author, *War of the Black Heavens: The Battles of Western Broadcasting in the Cold War*, Brassey's, 1997),
21 Lansdowne Road, W11.
October 24.

Age of consent

From the Headteacher of North Westminster Community School

Sir, At a time when our nation is considering the arguments for or against bringing the current age for male sexual consent into line with that for females, together with the steps that proponents for the change have taken to focus on this question, it is strange that no one has remembered how the legislation on the female age of sexual consent was triggered by a recently left pupil of this school's direct predecessor, Bell Street School, in 1885.

Marylebone was known as a "white slave traffic" area. Gladstone, then Prime Minister, appeared uninterested. W. J. Stead, editor of the literary and intellectual weekly *Pall Mall Gazette*, came to the street behind our Marylebone Lower House "to buy a girl". Lisa Armstrong was sold by her mother for £3, a further £2 being payable when her virginity was proven.

Stead gave the girl to the Salvation Army (who still have a building in the nearby Bell Street) and himself to the police — and wrote up his experience for his weekly journal. The resultant public furore drove Gladstone to introduce the section on age of sexual consent into the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1886, and thus define the current age of consent for females.

The girl who triggered that legislation was Lisa Armstrong, who had left our school a few months earlier, and was aged 12. She lived happily to bring up a family of her own. Let us remember her.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL MARLAND,
Headteacher, North Westminster Community School,
Marylebone Lower House,
Penfold Street, NW1.
October 10.

Favourite firsts

From Mr H. W. Harrison

Sir, I've been enjoying your letters (October 18, 20, 25). For myself, I shall never forget the (a) opening, and (b) closing lines of *John Halifax, Gentleman* (Mrs Craik, 1856) which I first read over 75 years ago:

(a) "Get out o' Mr Fletcher's road, ye idle, lounging, little——"

(b) No, thank God, she was not a widow now.

And what a splendid novel that was! I still have my "Everyman's Library" edition, now rather worn.

Yours truly,
H. W. HARRISON,
42 Thirlmere Avenue,
Allestree, Derby.

From Mr Cador Roberts

Sir, As a member of the British Hardware Federation, naturally I favour "Lee Chong's grocery, while not a model of neatness, was a miracle of supply." (*Cannery Row*, John Steinbeck).

Yours etc,
CADOR ROBERTS,
38 Station Road, Woodford Halse,
Daventry, Northamptonshire.
October 20.

Motoring madness

From Mr J. N. Farrow

Sir, What a good idea to hold the conference on rural traffic (report, October 21) in London!

Yours rurally,
J. N. FARROW,
Denham Hall,
Denham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.
October 21.

Sport letters, page 32

College fees and Oxbridge intake

From the Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School

Sir, The decision by Cambridge University, in response to the Government's threat to cut extra funding for college fees, that it is to increase by one third the number of students recruited from state schools (report, October 20) is ill-conceived. If Cambridge wishes to be more egalitarian, as opposed to merely appearing to be more egalitarian, it should seek to increase the proportion of students who come from low-income families.

Reducing the intake of students from independent schools indiscriminately may well mean that Cambridge becomes more socially elitist, as it replaces those on assisted places and scholarships in the private sector, with yet more children from the prosperous middle class, who are attending sixth-form colleges or grant-maintained schools in leafy southern suburbs.

If the Government is to provide extra funding to keep the unique Oxbridge tutorial system it should do so because it believes the benefits are worth paying for — and not because the ancient universities attempt to keep their privilege by bowing to political correctness in the selection of undergraduates.

Yours sincerely,
S. J. R. DAWKINS,
Headmaster,
Merchant Taylors' School,
Crosby, Liverpool L23 0QP.
October 21.

From the Headmaster of St Albans School

Sir, On the matter of Cambridge University's expressed desire to increase the proportion of pupils it recruits from maintained schools, may I applaud the excellent good sense embodied in your leading article of October 21, "Quadrangles and quotas".

The analogy with the dissolution of the monasteries is apposite. However, one could sympathise more readily with the cowardice of 16th-century bishops faced with a monarch likely to cut off their heads than with the submission of a proud university to covert political blackmail by a baroness eager to chop off merely their college fees.

Oxford's and Cambridge's claim to unique status rests on an absolute commitment to academic excellence which could not survive an admission system that discriminated on any grounds other than talent. One must also question the morality of discriminating against the offspring of fee-paying parents who have relieved the State of the burden of educating their children at secondary level; they are entitled to expect equality of access for their children to the higher education system for which they have helped to pay.

Oxford and Cambridge are faced with a situation similar to that confronted by the direct-grant schools 20 years ago. They could do worse than take a leaf out of our book. Independence has in no way damaged our academic standards.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW GRANT,
St Albans School,
Abbey Gateway,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.
October 21.

Status of teachers

From Mr J. J. Beere

Sir, Well said, the Reverend P. P. S. Brownless (letter, October 22).

My teacher girlfriend gets into her inner-city comprehensive at 8am. After teaching a full day, covering for absent colleagues, supervising children during breaks, attending departmental meetings and completing administrative tasks, she returns home at 6pm and embarks upon at least two hours' work preparing lessons and marking books. She is a graduate of a fine university, has taught for five years and is generally recognised as extremely competent.

She is currently paid a salary so derisory that she is ashamed to reveal it. The drudgery of her workload and the poverty of her reward means that she will be leaving the profession at the end of the year, irrespective of whether she has found alternative employment.

Slick commercials (report, October 15) will not raise the status of this particular profession. Hard cash and shorter working hours will.

Yours sincerely,
J. J. BEERE,
21a Westwick Gardens, W14.
October 22.

Bells are still ringing

From Mr William D. Meston

Sir, I was amused to read (report, Business, October 21) that Stephen Finner, Managing Director of Cater Deal, an execution-only stockbroker, "had to pick up the phone for the first time in 20 years" because of the "pandemonium" when two of the new automated trading systems faltered.

Perhaps he could have a word with my wife, who has never put the phone down for the last 15 years of marriage.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM MESTON,
11 The Green,
Mistley, Manningtree, Essex.
October 21.

هكذا من الإصل

COURT CIRCULAR

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
October 25: Mr *Nelson Mandela* (President of the Republic of South Africa), the Hon Serge Vohor Rialuth (Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu), Mr Muhammad Nawaz Sharif (Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan), Dr the Hon Keith Mitchell (Prime Minister of Grenada) and Dr the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam (*Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius*) were received by The Queen this morning.

His Excellency Maumoon Abdul Gayoom (President of the Republic of Maldives) was also received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested *him with the Insignia of an Honorary* Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George.

The King of Swaziland, Senhor *Joaquim Chissano* (*President of the* Republic of Mozambique), the Hon Dr Alfred *Sant* (*Prime* Minister of Malta) and the Hon Basdeo Panday (Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago) were entertained to Luncheon by The Queen *and The Duke of Edinburgh*.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this evening gave a Reception for Ministers and Senior Officials attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at the *Palace* of Holyroodhouse.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited the Commonwealth Centre Exhibition of Non-Governmental Organisations in the Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October25: The Duke of York, Trustee, this morning visited Lakefield College School, Ontario, Canada, and presented *The Prince* Andrew Cup.

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a meeting of the Lakefield College School Trustees.

The Duke of York this evening attended a Dinner given by the Headmaster of *Lakefield College School*.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 25: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, today *continued his visit to* South Wales.

His Royal Highness, accompanied by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards RNR), this morning visited the Cardiff Bay Development *Corporation and toured the Cardiff* Bay area, which included a visit to Techniquest.

The Prince Edward afterwards opened the Astroturf all weather hockey pitch at Whitchurch High School, Cardiff.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited HM Prison Prescoed, Usk, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gwent (Sir Richard Hanbury Tenison).

The *Prince* Edward later visited Haberdashers Monmouth School for Girls and subsequently visited Monmouth School.

His Royal Highness this evening held a Reception, *followed by a Dinner,* for The Duke of Edinburgh's *Award in Wales on board HMY Britannia*. Queen Alexandra Dock, Cardiff

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 25: The Princess Royal, Commandant-in-Chief, Women's Transport Service (FANY), this afternoon attended the Ninetieth Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving and Com*memoration in the Guards* Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London SW1.

Her Royal Highness this evening attended the Ninetieth Anniversary Reunion Reception of the Women's Transport Service at *the Royal Hospital*, Chelsea, London SW3.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 25: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this afternoon arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from Seoul, Korea. Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, Aldeburgh Festival Anniversary Appeal, this morning attended a Concert as part of the Aldeburgh October Britten Festival at Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Aldeburgh, and was received by *Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant* of Suffolk (the Lord Belstead).

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
October 26: The Queen this morning attended Divine Service in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, to mark education and the Commonwealth, and was received by the Minister (the Very Rev Gilleasbuig Macmillan).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 26: The Duke of York, Trustee, this morning *attended Chapel* at Lakefield College School, *Ontario*, Canada.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this evening attended a Dinner given by Round Square at Appleby College, Toronto.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 26: The Prince of Wales, President, *The Prince's Trust*, attended a "Commonwealth in Con*cert" evening at the* Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Milligan, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present *this evening at a Reception, Concert* and Dinner given in aid of the Wavendon Allmusic Plan in New York City, United States of America.

Birthdays today

Lord Ashtown, 81; Lady Baden-Powell, former Chief Commissioner, Girl Guides Association, 61; Mr David Bryant, bowler, 66; Mr John Cleese, writer and actor, 58; Vice-Admiral Sir John Cox, 69; Dr John Dingle, President, Hughes Hall, Cambridge, 70; the Earl of Dunraven and Mount-Earl, 58; Sir Paul Fox, former managing director, BBC Television, 72; Lord Glendyne, 71; Mr Glenn Hoddle, England football team coach, 40; Sir John Hunt, former MP, 68; Mr P.T. Hurst, Chief Taxing Master of the Supreme Court, 55; Lieutenant-General Sir Maurice Johnston, Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire, 68; Sir Raymond Johnstone, former chairman, Forestry Commission, 68; Mr Nicholas Jones, director of corporate finance, Lazard Bros, 51; Admiral Sir John Kerr, 60; Sir Brian McGrath, royal equerry, 72; Sir Anthony Meyer, former MP, 77; *Sir Frank Roberts, former* diplomat, 90; Mr Leonard Rosoman, painter, 84; Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm Ross, comptroller, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 54; Professor B.E. Supple, FBA, former Master, St Catharine's College, Cambridge, 67; Mr Chris Tavaré, cricketer, 43; Dr A.W. Tyson, FBA, musicologist and psychoanalyst, 71; Air Chief Marshal *Sir John Willis*, 60; Mr A.N. Wilson, author, 47.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will visit Chunghwa *Picture Tubes, Mossend, Lanark*shire at 11 and open the new plant.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as honorary member, will attend a Rotary *Club of Windsor and Eton* luncheon at the Castle Hotel, Windsor, at 12.45. Later, he will present the Prince Philip Designers Prize 1997 at a Design Council reception at Grosvenor House at 6.30.

Prince Edward, patron, National Youth Theatre of Great Britain, will attend a reception and luncheon to launch the new sponsors for the theatre at the Royal Garden Hotel, London W8, at noon.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit *A Tale of Two Cities — Royal Copenhagen in London* exhibition at Royal Copenhagen, 15 New Bond Street, at 6.30.

Arbitrators' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Arbitrators' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr I W Menzies; Senior Warden, Mr M H Hinton; Junior Warden, Mr J C S Mackie.

Nature notes

ON SUNNY, *frosty mornings*, some skylarks sing for a *while over the fields* where a layer of mist rises as the frost melts. Carrion crows turn over the clods on ploughland; if jackdaws come down to feed near them, they take care not to get too close. Lesser *black-backed gulls also gather on the furrows*, often on *farms far inland*.

Redwings have come down from northern Europe and will spend the winter here: they have a red patch under the wing which flashes brilliantly when the low sun catches them in flight. They have two distinctive calls, a thin, high-pitched note and a soft, nasal clucking.

The redwing

Most of the acorns have fallen from the oaks and the leaves are starting to wither and crumple. Sweet-chestnut *trees are shedding their fruit*: the thorny outer cases split as they hit the ground *and the* nuts spill out. On hazel bushes hard green catkins are forming among the brown leaves: in the spring, they will be long, soft and yellow, scattering their pollen *as they swing in the wind*.

Beech trees are at their most colourful, *with glowing* orange and purple leaves, and a few green leaves still sprinkled among them.

DJM

Baron Goodhart

The life barony conferred upon Sir William Howard Goodhart, QC, as been gazetted by the name, style and title of **Baron Goodhart**, of Youlbury in the County of Oxfordshire.

Baron Brooke of Alverthorpe

The life barony conferred upon Mr Clive Brooke has been gazetted by the name, style and title of **Baron Brooke of Alverthorpe**, of Alverthorpe in the County of West Yorkshire.

Latest wills

John Lofus **Leigh-Pemberton**, artist, of London SW15, left estate valued at £2,201,251 net.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Graham **Smallwood**, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £180,000 net.

Lady **Templer**, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, left estate valued at £181,226 net.

Lady **Weiss**, of Little Marlow, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £3,933,908 net.
Among several bequests she left £25,000 to the JNF Charitable Trust.

Joan Darcy **Richardson**, of Lymington, Hampshire, left estate valued at £723,902 net.

Agnes Joanna Kyrle **Younger**, of Kirby Underdale, York, left estate valued at £775,192 net.

Lady **Reid**, of Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear, left estate valued at £277,560 net.

Marjorie **Phillips**, of Sandbach, Cheshire, left estate valued at £1,151,976 net.

John Barrington **Hawkes**, company director, of Leicester, left estate valued at £1,289,051 net.

Private view

Royal Over-Seas League
Delegates of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting attended a private view of the annual open exhibition for young Commonwealth artists held yesterday at Edinburgh College of Art. Sir Geoffrey Ellerton, Chairman of the Royal Over-Seas League, and Mr Robert Newell, director-general, welcomed the guests.

Concert

Royal Over-Seas League
The Royal Over-Seas League held a concert of young Commonwealth musicians on Saturday evening at The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. Sir Geffrey Ellerton, chairman of the league, and Mr Robert Newell, director-general, received the guests at a reception held afterwards.

Service dinners

Headquarters North
Commander R.J. Butler presided *at the annual Trafalgar Night* dinner of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel held on Saturday at Nato Headquarters North, Stavanger, Norway. Lieutenant-General S. Frisvold, Commander Allied Forces North Europe, and Mrs Frisvold were the principal guests.

Naval 8/208 Squadron Association
Professor Gordon Hodson was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Naval 8/208 Squadron Association held on Saturday at the RAF Club. Air Commodore B.C. Laite, chairman, presided. Squadron Leader M.P. Christy, Officer Commanding No 208 Squadron, also spoke. Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Stear, president, attended.

Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (Militia)
Brigadier A.E. Whitley, Chief Engineer, and Mr H. Edwards, MP, were the principal guests at a dinner given by officers of The Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers *(Militia)* on Saturday *at* Great Castle House, Monmouth. *Lieutenant-Colonel* P. Lodge, Commanding Officer, presided.

The Queen's Royal Lancers
Brigadier A.A.J.R. Cumming presided at a *Balaklava* dinner of the East Midlands branch of The *Queen's Royal Lancers* Regimental Association held on Saturday at the Forte Post House, Nottingham, to mark the 143rd anniversary of the Charge of the Light Brigade. Mr Terence Cross, treasurer, and Mr Kenneth Fletcher, chairman, were among those present.

Defence Postal and Courier Services
Major-General D.F.E. Botting, Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Logistic Corps, and Mr John Roberts, Chief Executive, Royal Mail, were the principal guests at the 50th annual dinner of the Defence Postal and Courier Services Officers' Association held on Saturday at Simpsons-in-the-Strand. Brigadier T. McG. Brown presided.

Dinner

The Cavaliers
The Cavaliers Club held a dinner on Saturday evening at the House of Commons to honour the Sri Lankan World Champions cricket team. Mr Tom Brake, MP, was the host. Mr Kingsley Wickremeratne, Mr C.V. Gooneratne, Mr Lakhi Liyanage, President of the Cavaliers, Mr Ivan Corea, *Sri Lanka Today*, Mr Christopher Martin-Jenkins and Mr Alan Comfort were among those present.

Marriages

Mr J.L. Leslie Melville and Miss E.J. Thorp
The marriage took place on Saturday, at the *Grosvenor* Chapel, London, W1, of Mr Jake Leslie Melville, elder son of *Mr Hamish* and Lady Eliza Leslie Melville, of Lochluichart, Ross-shire, to Miss Emma Thorp, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey *Thorp*, of Guildford, Surrey. The Rev S. Hobbs officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Flora, Arabella, Thomas and Edward Hussey. Mr *Edward* James was best man.

A reception was held at Claridge's, and the honeymoon is being spent in the *Bahamas*.

Mr E.J. Powell and Miss P.H. Mobbs
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St John the Baptist, Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire, of Mr Edward Powell, son of Mr and Mrs John Powell, of West *Kensington, to* Miss Penelope Mobbs, younger *daughter of Sir Nigel and the* Hon Lady Mobbs, of Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. The Rev D.R. Hemsley officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Lucinda Mobbs, Anna Heelas, Miss Rosalind King-Irwin and Mrs Simon Astill. Mr Adrian Clarke was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J.A. Kennedy and Miss P.C.A. Lineham
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Etheldreda's, Ely Place, of Mr Alex Kennedy, son of Sir Ian and Lady Kennedy, of *Twyford, Hampshire, to* Miss Portia Lineham, daughter of Mr *and Mrs Edmund Lineham*, of Farnborough, Hampshire. Father Kit Cunningham officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Gabriella Macpherson and Josephine Watts. Mr Andrew Kennedy was best man.

A reception was held in the Crypt of St Etheldreda's, and the honeymoon will be spent in Scotland.

Mr R.D. Szpiro and the Hon Janie E. Spring
The marriage took place on Thursday, October 23, at Chelsea Register Office, of Mr Richard Szpiro, son of the late Mr George Szpiro and of Mrs Szpiro, and the Hon *Janie Spring*, daughter of Lord Henniker and the late Lady Henniker.

Mr R.J. Sprackling and Miss A.C. Bullock
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 25, 1997, at the Church of St Mary's, Bryanston Square, London, between Mr Robert Sprackling and Miss Anna Bullock.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.J.D. Cullens and Miss C.A. Stramik
The engagement is announced between Niall James David Cullens, of the British Embassy, Rome, son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs David Cullens, and *Caroline Anne, daughter of Mrs* Johanna and the late Mr Bolesław *Stramik, of Blofield, Norwich.*

Lieutenant Colonel S.P.B. Kilpatrick and Miss A.K. Ridgway
The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Kilpatrick, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, son of Mr Terence Kilpatrick, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and the late Mrs Marjorie Kilpatrick, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr David Ridgway, OBE, and Mrs Ridgway, *of the British Embassy*, La Paz, Bolivia.

Mr A.P. Spiegel and Miss C.G. Longworth
The engagement is announced between Adam, only son of the late Mr Sam Spiegel and of Mrs Max Stafford Clark, and Gay, second daughter of Mr and Mrs John Longworth, of London *SW1*.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: James Cook, navigator, Marton, Yorkshire, 1728; James Macpherson, poet and politician, Ruthven, 1736; Niccolo Paganini, violinist, Genoa, 1782; Sir William Smith, founder of Boys' Brigade, Thurso, 1854; Theodore Roosevelt, 26th American President 1901-09, New York, 1858; Dylan Thomas, poet, Swansea, 1914.

DEATHS: Athelstan, King of the English 926-940, Gloucester, 940; Lascelles Abercrombie, poet and critic, London, 1938; George Morland, painter, London, 1806; *Lise Meitner, physicist, pioneer of* nuclear fission, Cambridge, 1968.

The New York Subway was opened by Mayor McLellan, 1904.

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BIRTHS

BOLITHO - On October 23rd to Annabel and Alverne, a son, George Alverne, a brother for *Thomas*, Adelaide and Alexandra.

MARLEY - On October 20th to Rosemary (née Turner) and Graham, a daughter, Imogen Rose.

MAGILL - On October 23rd 1997 to Sophie (née Straker) and Patrick, a son, Harry Dermott Charles, a brother for Lily.

***O'CONOR** - On October 23rd* at The Portland Hospital, to Karen and John, a daughter, *Madeline Helen* Jemima, a sister for Constance.

TURNER - On October 11th to Jessica (née Price) and Grange, a daughter, Madelaine.

WEST - On October 23rd to Sally (née Beard) and *Christopher, a daughter*, Alice Kathryn.

DEATHS

CHAMIER - Charlotte Hulda (Bunty) née Newsom, suddenly on October 23rd 1997. Widow of Cyril Edward Deschamp Chamier. Strictly private cremation. Thanksgiving service at Church of St Mary Virgin, Henley-on-Thames, on Friday October 31st 1997 at 3.00 pm. No flowers. Donations if desired to The Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond.

COMPTON - Elizabeth Ann (Betty), passed away peacefully at the Albany Nursing Home, Oxford on Friday 24th October 1997 aged 96 years. Funeral service will take place at Oxford Crematorium on Tuesday 28th *October* at 3.15pm.

EBERLEIN - (Andrew) John *O.B.E. of* Bowdon, Cheshire on October 21st 1997 unexpectedly aged *69* years. R.I.P. Husband of Stella, nephew of Violet, father of Andrew, Malcolm, (Deceased) Richard, Frances and Catherine, father-in-law to Shirley, *Philippa*, David and Mark, grandfather to James, Rachel and Mary, *Harriet and Annabel*, Rhiannon, Bethany and Megan, Emily and Stefan, brother-in-law to Kate and Kay. Funeral to be held at St Vincent's RC Church, Altrincham at 12 noon on Thursday October 30th 1997 *followed by cremation*. Family flowers only, donations if desired for *CAFOD may be forwarded* along with all enquiries to the funeral director Mr K Dewey. Tel: 0161 980 7010.

ELWELL - Julian, tragically in *Malvern on* Oct 18 aged *17*. Eldest son of Jon and Clare Elwell. Brother of Emily and Simon. Requiem Mass at Buckfast Abbey today, Monday Oct 27 at 12.00 Noon. Donations to CPI (Dogs for Disabled) Havant PO9 1EE.

FORREST - Geoffrey. Suddenly at home on 22nd October 1997, beloved husband of Joyce, father of Angus and George and grandfather. Service at St. Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Slitrig Crescent, Hawick, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 29th October 1997 followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations, if wished, to St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Hawick.

GRAY - Ekil. Suddenly, as he would have wished, on Thursday 23rd October. Please no flowers.

KIRKHAM - Nancy on 23rd October 1997. Dearly loved by her son Michael, and Rita, Martina and Oliver.

DEATHS

HUDSON - John Harold, *Solicitor, of Kennington*, died peacefully on 22nd October. Much loved husband of *Angela* and father of Thomas, Anna, Luke, Benedict, Eleanor and Alexander. Funeral Friday 31st October.

LATHAM - Lady Gwendoline Lucy Constance Rushworth on October 23rd aged 94 *peacefully at Dorny House* Nursing Home, Sunningdale. Much loved and admired by her *children* and *all* the family. Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church Sunningdale, Thursday October 30th at 2.30pm. Flowers if desired to Lines Bannister *Ascot*, Tel: 01344 20266.

***MARTIN** - On October 21st* 1997 peacefully in Hospital, Mary, dearly loved mother of *Ann, John, Peter and David*, also her twelve loving grandchildren and one great grandchild. Service of Thanksgiving at Little Baddow Church on Tuesday October 28th 1997 at 12.30 pm, following a private cremation. No flowers please, donations can be made to Little Haven Childrens Hospice c/o Bakers Funeral Service, Eves Corner, Danbury, Essex. Tel 01245 225876.

MULLINGS - Arthur Vernon, died peacefully on 25th *October 1997. Beloved* father of Susan and Nicholas and grandfather of Philippa, Edward, *Laura* and Robert. Private cremation. Family flowers only.

ROGERSON - *Helen Olivia* died peacefully at home on 23rd October aged 86. Widow of Hugh, beloved mother of Nicolas. Funeral Monday 3rd November at The Church of St Peter and St Paul, Lavenham at 2pm. All welcome.

SCOTT - A.M.I.E.E. On Monday 20th October 1997, peacefully at home. Richard George dearly beloved husband of Sybil. Enquiries *c/o* Lee Goacher, Seaford and Newhaven Funeral Service. Tel 01323 893889

TAYLOR - Janet Mary (Jessie) of High Bank, Holker Road, Burton died peacefully on 23rd October aged 85 years. Funeral Service will take place at Trinity Church, Burton at 2pm on Friday 31st October. Family flowers only. Enquiries to R W Percival 01298 23056.

WILSON - Dickie (Aileen Emilie, née Horstmann). Peacefully at home in Bath on 24th October. Beloved wife of Raymond and mother of Clive, Peter and Nigel. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving to be held at The Church of St John the Babtist, *Colerne*, Wiltshire on Friday, 31st October at 11.30 am. No flowers, donations *if wished*, to Colerne PCC c/o C.R.S. Funerals Ltd, Tel: 01225 314304.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BROWN - Kathleen Mary Brown - died October 27th 1990. Sadly missed by her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NO 005042 of 1997
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF BROOKGREEN LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 9th day of October 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named BROOKGREEN LIMITED ("the Company")

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of November 1997. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 23rd day of October 1997
Morgan Bruce
147 Fleet Street
London EC4A 2JB
Tel: 0171 822 8000
Ref: [illegible]
Solicitors for the Petitioner.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOVO INDUSTRI UK LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number: [illegible]
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF NOVO INDUSTRI UK LIMITED

On 9 October 1997 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Peter Norman Spratt of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders. The liquidator gives notice (pursuant to Rule 4.18A of the Insolvency Rules) that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor, SL4 1HB by 30 November 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Date 16 October 1997
P N Spratt, Liquidator.

OPTIOL LTD
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: On 17 October 1997 the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT by 17 December 1997.
The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A (6) that on 17 January 1998 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 17 December 1997 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Date 22 October 1997
M. Fishman, Liquidator.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
J. C. PLANTS LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to *Section* 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 14 November 1997 at THE OLD BAKERY, LOWER GOWER ROAD, ROYSTON, HERTS SG8 5EA at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act. Notice is further given that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA, of 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 20th day of October 1997
By Order of the Board
J. Cooley, Director.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A NEW JUSTICE'S LICENCE
We, John Michael Stockton of 18 Devonshire Drive, Greenwich, London SE10 8JZ, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Operations Director, Mitchell Dingsland of 9 Nesbit House, Gravel Hill Close, Bexley Heath, Kent, DA6 7EX, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Logistics Manager and Nigel Frank Mullen of 239a East Barnett Road, East Barnett, Hertfordshire, EN4 8SS, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Function Manager, do hereby give notice that is our intention to apply at the Transfer Sessions *for the* said District to be held at Greenwich Magistrates Court on the eleventh day of November next *for the grant* to us of a Justice Licence authorising us to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions *for* consumption either on or off the premises situate at: Unit 10, Deptford Trading Estate, Blackhorse Road, London SE8 5HY and to be known as the Moving Venue Caterers Limited *Sports* and Social Club of which premises John Menzies plc of Hanover Buildings, Rose Street, Edinburgh, EH22 3AA is the owner.
Dated this twentieth day of October 1997
Penningtons
Ref: [illegible]
Highfield
Brighton Road
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1NS
Authorised agents on behalf of the applicant.

The Insolvency Act 1986
PLUGS AND PLANTS LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named company will be held on 14th November 1997 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts, at 11.00am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleton, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 20th October 1997
By Order of the Board
J. Cooley, Director

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AND IN THE MATTER OF Kirk Hall & Co Limited
Company No: [illegible]
Registered Office: C/O Wilson Pitts, Devonshire House, 38 York Place, Leeds LS1 2ED.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the Metropole Hotel, King Street, Leeds, LS1 2HQ on 29 October 1997 at 11.00am for the purposes of dealing with Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act.
A full list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at the offices of Wilson Pitts Devonshire House, 38 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2ED between 10.00am and 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
By Order of the Board
Peter Hall, Director
Dated 22 October 1997

NOVO LABORATORIES LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number: 01284346
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF NOVO LABORATORIES LIMITED
On 9 October 1997 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Peter Norman Spratt of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders. The liquidator gives notice [pursuant to Rule 4.18A of the Insolvency Rules 1986] that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, *of any* claim against the company to the liquidator, at Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor, SL4 1HB by 30 November 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Date 16 October 1997
P N Spratt, Liquidator

Latinvest Principal Trading Limited
BBV Latinvest American Holdings Limited
BBV Latinvest Corporate Finance Limited
(All in Members Voluntary Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, Lee Antony Manning of Bulcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF give notice that on 6 October 1997 I was appointed Liquidator by resolutions of members.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named companies which are being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 30 November 1997 to send in their *full names*, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Lee Antony Manning of 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, the Liquidator of the said companies, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Dated: 20 October 1997
Lee Antony Manning, Liquidator.

CAPTAIN ROGER HICKS

Captain Roger Hicks, DSO, wartime destroyer commander, died on October 12 aged 87. He was born on December 27, 1909.

In May 1940, in the desperate last hours before the Germans captured Boulogne, Roger Hicks, as captain of the destroyer *Vimiera*, played a prominent role in evacuating several thousand men of the 20th Guards Brigade from the port. Of the group of destroyers sent in to try to rescue the Guards, *Vimiera* was the only one to return twice to Boulogne, which she did in the evening of May 23, 1940, and again in the small hours of May 24. In doing so she took off 2,400 men of the Welsh and Irish Guards, who were brought back to Britain to fight another day.

There was something appropriate about *Vimiera*'s being employed in this hazardous work. She was one of the destroyers which had escorted two battalions of the brigade across to France in the first place. On May 21 *Vimiera*, under Hicks's command, and the destroyer *Whitshed*, had seen the 2nd Irish Guards and the 2nd Welsh Guards and their supporting anti-tank batteries safely ashore at Boulogne, whose defence was considered vital as a supply port for the British Expeditionary Force in the aftermath of the German breakthrough at the mouth of the Somme at Abbeville, the previous day.

It was already too late. Guderian's panzers had by now an irresistible momentum. Although the German XIX Corps war diary was to record "in and around Boulogne the enemy is fighting tenaciously for every inch of ground in order to prevent the important harbour falling into German hands," the Guards really had their backs to the wall from the moment of embarkation. In spite of this, both the Welsh and Irish battalions repulsed several tank attacks.

But at daybreak on May 23, the Germans captured Fort de la Crèche, on the heights to the north of Boulogne, from its French defenders. From that moment their artillery, mortars and machineguns were able to fire at will into the town and harbour. In addition, air attacks pounded British shipping in the roads.

Against this unpromising backdrop the Royal Navy was ordered in to try to bring the Guards off. In addition to *Vimiera* and *Whitshed*, four other British destroyers and several French ships drew in towards the shore and shelled German artillery positions and machinegun nests. But a heavy toll was exacted by German guns and bombers. The captains of both *Keith* and *Vimy* were killed on their bridges and the French destroyer *Orage* was sunk.

It was obvious that an evacuation must be attempted immediately and Admiral Ramsay, as Flag Officer Dover, ordered Hicks and the captain of *Whitshed* to enter the harbour. By this time the enemy were swarming into the town and as the destroyers went alongside they were engaging German tanks over open sights. Amid a ferocious exchange of fire, each destroyer embarked 1,000 guardsmen and carried them to safety. As they withdrew, the other destroyers came alongside and although all sustained some damage, hundreds more troops were brought off.

Darkness fell, and that appeared to be all that could be achieved. But Ramsay, at Dover, was aware that a substantial body of troops was still onshore. Although by this time the Germans were masters of the scene, he reluctantly gave the order that Hicks should return and attempt to rescue them. At 1.40am on May 24, *Vimiera* steamed into a harbour which had, after the tumult of the previous day, fallen strangely silent. In a feverish hour, during which her officers and men fervently hoped that there would not be a repetition of the German assaults, 1,400 more guardsmen were surreptitiously re-embarked and Hicks thankfully gave the order to slip and proceed to sea.

Vimiera was by this time dangerously overloaded and in addition was dive-bombed as she stole away from the French coast. But thanks to skilful ship handling she reached Dover safely. For his part in this audacious rescue from under the noses of the enemy of so many valuable fighting troops, Hicks was awarded a well-earned DSO.

Roger Bertram Nettleton Hicks was born at St Columb, Cornwall, the son of an army officer. His father died in 1915 from wounds suffered on the Western Front. Hicks was educated at Winchester, where he was a War Scholar, joining the Royal Navy in 1927.

Thereafter, he served in the heavy cruiser *Devonshire* on the China station and in the light cruiser *Danae* in the West Indies. During the prewar crises of the Italian invasion of Abyssinia and the Spanish Civil War he was, first, standing by at Alexandria in the destroyer *Firedrake* and later patrolling in the Mediterranean.

In 1940 he took command of *HMS Vimiera*, in whose name hangs a small tale. The name first occurs in the Royal Navy in 1808, the year of the Peninsular War Battle of Vimeiro, after which a ship was (incorrectly) christened. The mistake was perpetuated in her successor, Hicks's command. (Another curious such case is *HMS Curacoa* of which no fewer than four have been thus incorrectly named after the Netherlands Antilles island of Curaçao, since 1809.)

Hicks next commanded the destroyer *Antelope*, which was sent to search for survivors after the sinking of the battlecruiser *Hood* by the *Bismarck*. He also helped to evacuate Norwegian and Russian coalminers from Spitzbergen.

In the autumn of 1941, Hicks was appointed to the staff of C-in-C, East Indies, who had specifically requested a young destroyer officer with command experience. Unfortunately, the tide of Japanese victories in the Far East and the increasing importance of the Royal Navy's war against the U-boats in the Atlantic meant that Hicks was stranded in a comparative backwater at a vital stage of his career. He found himself in Colombo, latterly on the staff of Flag Officer Ceylon, until 1944.

Returning to England, Hicks commanded the destroyer *Zest* on Murmansk convoys and helped to evacuate Norwegian civilians from the Island of Sorøy, then threatened by retreating German troops. For this, he was appointed an honorary Knight First Class of the Norwegian Order of St Olav.

On VE-Day *Zest* was at Copenhagen for a jubilant welcome, and at the end of the war in the Far East Hicks was in Singapore, in charge of working parties of surrendered Japanese naval personnel.

After further sea and staff appointments, in 1956 he took command of the aircraft carrier *Warrior*, which was to have taken the nuclear bombs to Christmas Island for the Pacific tests. In the event, the bombs were flown out, but *Warrior* acted as the general mother ship to the various naval units taking part; on arrival at Christmas Island in March 1957, Hicks was appointed Commodore of the Operation Grapple naval task group, as its putative commander had fallen ill in Britain.

Three tests were carried out over Malden Island, and on completion of the third, Hicks flew down to New Zealand, to thank the authorities for the loan of two frigates which had taken part in the operation. His last appointment was as Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief, the Nore. He retired in 1960.

In 1964 Hicks returned to his native Cornwall, serving as a Bodmin JP and being active in a wide range of local affairs.

Hicks's first wife, Iris, died in 1941. He married, secondly, in 1946, Joan Say, and is survived by her, their daughter and son, and by the daughter and son of his first marriage.

RICHARD MASON

Richard Mason, novelist, died in Rome on October 13 aged 78. He was born on May 16, 1919.

ALREADY a well-known novelist in the 1940s, Richard Mason suddenly achieved notoriety in 1957 with *The World of Suzie Wong*, his famous story about a Hong Kong prostitute, who falls in love with an artist for whom she poses. The novel, one of the runaway bestsellers of the 1950s, was followed by a play which had long runs on Broadway and in the West End. In 1960 it was made into a film starring Nancy Kwan and William Holden. All over the world, whether rightly or wrongly, the idea of Suzie Wong came to represent Hong Kong and the forbidden romance of its nightlife.

Mason's first two books, *The Body Fell on Berlin* and *Angel Take Care*, were published when he was in his late teens (under the pseudonym Richard Lakin). These were followed by his first great success, *The Wind Cannot Read*, published in 1947 and made into a film directed by David Lean and starring Dirk Bogarde, for which Mason wrote the script. Like many of his novels, this story of a British pilot falling in love with his Japanese language instructor was based on Mason's own experiences during the war.

Then in 1949 followed *The Shadow and the Peak* and, (after *The World of Suzie Wong*) in 1962, *The Fever Tree*. Mason also scripted various films including (as co-writer) *A Town Like Alice* (1956, another war story set in the Far East) from the novel by Neville Shute.

Richard Mason was born in Hale, Manchester, in 1919, the son of an engineer. He was educated at Bryanston where W. H. Auden, his English teacher, had an inspirational effect on his future career.

In 1939 he joined the Royal Air Force where he learnt Japanese. He was later sent to the Irrawaddy river zone of Burma, was issued with a Jeep, a tent and a Gurkha orderly so that he could seek out and interrogate Japanese pilots who had been brought down in the jungle. His years in Asia had a decisive influence on Mason's later career and, despite his military chores, he managed to find time to continue writing on his portable typewriter.

Mason's first wife, whom he married in 1948, was Felicity Anne Cumming. She and Mason toured Africa extensively in the 1950s, looking for animals to photograph. The two remained close friends even after they separated and divorced.

In 1958 Mason bought and restored a charming top-floor apartment in the heart of Rome. Then in 1960 he married his second wife, Sarette, and the couple moved to an estate in Wales where Mason bred sheep and discovered his talent for sculpture. After this marriage failed, Mason returned to Rome, remaining on the best of terms with his second ex-wife.

In 1972 Mason fell in love with and married Margot (Maggie) Wolf, who was 24 years his junior. Their first child, a son, was born in 1973. Mason was so excited at becoming a father at the age of 54 that he spent the first night sleeping under his wife's hospital bed. A daughter was born in 1977.

He gradually gave up his writing and lived contentedly on his royalties. He had a young wife and a young family, and he devoted himself to them.

With Maggie he hosted memorable parties for his friends, as well as extremely colourful children's parties. His 70th birthday party, which brought friends from as far away as Hollywood, Thailand and Australia, and Maggie's 50th birthday for which she cooked entirely on her own in a closet-sized kitchen, were supreme gastronomic feats. A popular guest at any gathering, Mason was known in Rome circles as *un fior di galantuomo* — the perfect gentleman.

His wife and two children survive him.

Unsisterly encounter: Suzie Wong (Nancy Kwan, centre) in a catfight with a fellow Hong Kong prostitute while an apprehensive William Holden steps in to break it up, in a scene from the film of Mason's book

PROFESSOR A. H. W. BECK

A. H. W. Beck, Professor of Engineering at Cambridge, 1966-83, died on October 11 aged 81. He was born on August 7, 1916.

BILL BECK, as he was known, made important contributions to the physics and engineering of thermionic valves for microwaves, typically for use in radar, and later for use with fusion.

Arnold Hugh William Beck was educated at Gresham's School, Holt, and University College London. After graduation he became a research engineer at Henry Hughes & Sons, remaining there until 1941. Before the war he had been an active member of the Communist Party, but being a fierce patriot he soon relinquished his membership. He was also a member of the Association of Scientific Workers.

In 1941 he was seconded to the Admiralty Signals Establishment to assist with the development of microwave valves for radar, and shortly after the end of the war he went to the Standard Telecommunications Laboratories to take charge of all research on valves. Wishing to share his work with a wide audience, he published three introductory books, and he was soon recognised on both sides of the Atlantic.

In 1958 Beck became a lecturer in the engineering department at Cambridge, where his "Boy's Own Bumper Fun Books", as colleagues referred to them, were essential reading for research students. His move to Cambridge came at a time when teaching and research in electronics were growing apace, and his industrial experience was of great value in helping him to play a full role in both. He immediately started a strong research group on various topics within electron physics. He became a Fellow of Corpus Christie College in 1962 and was elected to a personal readership in 1964 and to a chair in 1966.

He wrote many learned papers (mostly with his research students), and continued to write textbooks, of which *Physical Electronics* (with Haroon Ahmed) was perhaps the best known.

In the early 1960s he devised and published the basic principles of a new kind of microwave generator, which used spiralling electron beams in a smooth electromagnetic waveguide. A low-power model of the valve was constructed and tested successfully, but because there was no immediate commercial use for it the work was not funded and was discontinued. A version was later developed in Russia as the gyratron, which is now widely used where exceptionally high microwave power is required. Beck's early work, however, did not receive the credit it deserved.

Beck had a forceful personality, expected others to work as hard as he did himself, and did not suffer fools gladly. But in those who made the grade he inspired great loyalty and affection, and he went to great trouble to further their interests. Many of his research students returned to celebrate his 80th birthday with a dinner in Cambridge last year.

His first marriage, to Margaret Stewart MacIver, was dissolved in 1938. In 1947 he married Monica, daughter of S. K. Ratcliffe, and he is survived by her and by her two sons.

University news

Oxford
TRINITY COLLEGE

John Farnsworth Wright, Tutor in Economics 1955-90, Official Fellow 1955-97, Estates Bursar 1955-97, has been elected to an Emeritus Fellowship from October 1.

The following scholarships and prizes have been awarded to members of the college:

Millard Scholarship in Chemistry: Rosemary Allen.

Millard Scholarship in Engineering Science: William Bennett.

Millard Scholarships in Materials Science: Suzanne Pilcher, Philippa Cave, Matthew Shin.

Millard Scholarship in Physics: Johanna Broomfield.

Hillary Scholarship in English: Lucy Qureshi.

Wyatt Rushton Scholarship in History: Julian Weigall.

Wyatt Rushton Scholarship in Law: Nathan Tamblyn.

Chadwick Scholarship in PPE: Shailen Patel.

Woodruff Scholarships in Philosophy and Theology: Kate Dyson, Benjamin West.

Percival Exhibitions in English: Nicholas Dempsey, Daniel Thomas Swift.

Ford Exhibitions in History: Claire Booth, Catherine Boulton, Tryphaena Doyle, Akady Hodge.

Blakiston Exhibitions in Literae Humaniores: Melanie Peart, Diana Spain.

Henniker Exhibitions in Mathematics: Claire Eggleston, Damon Vosper Singleton.

Millard Exhibitions in Materials Science: Russell Goodall, Helen Lane, Susannah Wood.

Millard Exhibitions in Engineering: Sing Yong Kong, Christina Luk, Rachel Oliver.

Chadwick Exhibitions in Modern Languages: Katherine Earnshaw, Andrew Hutchinson, James Maltby, Elizabeth Turner.

Woodruff Exhibition in Theology: Richard Ashcroft.

Millard Exhibitions in Physics: Christopher Golby, Stephen Morris.

Graduate Scholarships: Bruce Booth, Catherine Lever, Grant Ritchie, Michael Watkins, Melvyn Yap.

R A Knox Memorial Prize for the best first-class performance in a Final Honour School: jointly to Heidi Aston, Antonin Machacek, Stephen Payne, David Towsey.

Peter Fisher Prize in Physics: Antonin Machacek.

Bellot Prize in International Law: Elena Segal.

Douglas Sladen Essay Prize: Khalid Naqib.

Cozens Hardy Moot Prize: jointly to Sophie Harith Kassim, Nicolas Gray.

James Holladay Prize in Ancient History: jointly to Melanie Peart, Diana Spain.

Stirling Boyd Prize for the student whose attainment and influence on the life of the college are of the highest value: jointly to Antonin Machacek, Stephen Payne.

Prizes for Firsts in Final Honour Schools:

Heidi Aston, Emma Brown, Susanna Cary, Thomas Eykyn, Daniel Gibson, Ben Gilbert, Paul Gilbert, Gareth James, Alain Lam, Antonin Machacek, Stephen Payne, Richard Thompson, David Towsey.

Graduate Prizes:

Jaoued Ahmed, Nabil Ben Kheder, Rebecca Boggs, Jason Efstathiou, Catherine Emerson, Nir Harel, Christopher Insole, Walter Jetz, Gerard Kahn, Jennifer Land, Charles Lawrie, Yongwoo Lee, Alison Loftus-Hills, Juthahip Mongolsapaya, Jeremy Smith, Vicki-Ann Wridgway.

Undergraduate Prizes for work of special merit:

Charlotte Curtis, Daryl Noyce, Christina Luk.

THE TRUTH WELL HIDDEN

MR W.C. FIELDS SPEAKS TO CONQUER

Every connoisseur of film comedy must treasure the memory of certain moments in the cinema, moments which he can look back on with joy. Hopelessly trapped in the middle of a long row of amply filled seats, while some desperate drama of heroic passion unfolds itself, he may yet close his eyes and abandon himself to such memories, thinking longingly of Mr. Chaplin being forcibly fed on nuts — and bolts; of a band concert and an outrageous duck selling ice-cream; of the Marx Brothers playing bridge; or of Mr. Charles Laughton, with one magnificent gesture, acknowledging the gift of a million dollars.

To these must be added just the sound of Mr. W.C. Fields's voice. There is something about that slow, sugary eloquence which is satisfying and rare, an old-world courtliness and dignity belonging to an age in which even the swindler took some pride in his profession, as though to say, "I may be a liar, but at least I'm a gentleman."

Such is Mr. Fields. That hoarse and persuasive voice, the grandiose and flowery speech, are unique in the cinema. He is an old-time showman still manfully holding his own in a world of wise-cracking salesmanship. He does not move with the times, but how magnificently he triumphs! It is almost with a sense of reverence that we watch him selling a publican his neighbour's dog or a yokel a bottle of special tonic, good for man or beast.

Mr. Fields can, we may readily believe, sell anything to anybody, convincing each client that what he offers is just the thing which that client cannot possibly do without. The most accomplished liar and brggart on the screen, he can yet at times assume an innocence of expression which would do credit to a newly born babe; and when playing poker with those who believe that they have a "sucker" in their midst, he will turn up ace after ace with a slight start of pained surprise as though protesting to the gods that they should thus favour one so guileless. Quick to grasp an opportunity, he is also quick to sense when trouble is brewing, and like all great showmen he know to a nicety the moment when the prudent man stops talking and makes hurriedly for open country.

Once probably the greatest comic juggler of his day on the stage, Mr Fields did not for a long time achieve any great fame upon the screen. He has appeared intermittently in celluloid for more than 20 years, but his universal success is recent. In the days of silent films, producers saw in him only a slapstick comedian of moderate ability. With the coming of sound he did not at first fare much better than before.

Such stately verbosity was not appreciated in Hollywood, a city of twentieth-century showmen who looked askance at one from another era. But in the last few years he has come into his own and gained the recognition he deserves, although illness has unfortunately made his appearances all to rare.

ON THIS DAY

October 27, 1937

W.C. Fields was Florenz Ziegfeld's star attraction from 1915 to 1921, and his measured, rather pompous delivery did not initially go down well in the "talkies" — but his time was to come.

هكذا من الإصل

THE TIMES TODAY

MONDAY OCTOBER 27 1997

NEWS

WPC's father accuses courts

■ The father of WPC Nina Mackay critcised the judicial system yesterday when it was disclosed that a man charged with killing his daughter had been given bail after being accused of assault.

Sidney Mackay, 54, a retired police chief superintendent, said: "My argument is that it is the police not the social services or the courts who have to pick up the pieces for the failings of society. At times like these they pay the price.......... Pages 1, 5

EMU stance 'will be made plain'

■ Tony Blair admitted last night that the Government had suffered a rough time over the single currency as he promised to clear up any lingering doubts today with a "definitive and detailed" statement in the House of Commons from Gordon Brown, the Chancellor .... Pages 1, 20, 21, 48

Frontline women

Thousands of women will be allowed to serve in the Army frontline in jobs such as gunners and engineers under plans to be unveiled today.................. Page 1

Lockerbie threat

The Government was threatened with a Scottish petition if it continues to block a Lockerbie compromise...............Pages 2, 21

Campbell in a spin

Sidespin rather than the usual topspin took over for Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's press secretary, when he took on the challenge of the famous St Andrews Old Course........Page 2

Hoaxers' story

One Joseph Crabtree is being hailed as the greatest polymath in British history, but is not to be found anywhere in the reference books. Sadly, Mr Crabtree is a hoax. But behind the myth lies an astonishing tale ....Page 3

Cot death warning

Families where more than one child dies in a cot death should be closely monitored for cases of severe child abuse, according to new research ....Page 4

Anne Boleyn's book

A book of hours, signed and inscribed by Anne Boleyn, has been discovered among a collection of books that the owner wanted to be valued to see if it was worth selling ....Page 7

Cardinal's campaign

As anti-abortion campaigners staged protest marches and collected signatures on petitions, Cardinal Basil Hume called on the Prime Minister to convince the nation that abortion is wrong................................Page 9

A bow too far

The ermined pageantry of the House of Lords faces a trimming as peers are urged to overhaul the bowing and doffing in the 370-year-old introduction ceremony for new members............Page 10

Borderline crime

As Italy joined the Schengen agreement on free movement across European frontiers yesterday, an official gave a warning that organised crime was exploiting the relaxation of border controls ....Page 11

Home sweet home

Wreathed in mist and overhung by a transplanted forest, Bill Gates's $60 million home is occupied at last, but still not finished ....Page 12

Anxious wait

Washington was on edge awaiting the arrival of President Jiang Zemin of China ....Page 13

Macau 'at war'

Macau was on the verge of all-out gang warfare after the murder of the alleged boss of one of the biggest triads in the Portuguese-ruled territory ....Page 13

'Rose petal' espionage case

■ Rose petals sprinkled by a bridge over the Seine and a cigarette packet placed by a traffic light: these were the alleged espionage techniques used by Francis Temperville, the French atomic scientist, to communicate with his Russian spy-masters in what prosecutors say is the most damaging spy scandal in France since the Second World War.............................Page 11

M. P. BARRIOPEDRO / EPA

Two thousand sheep stroll through central Madrid as shepherds demonstrate in favour of ancient countryside livestock routes

BUSINESS

New watchdog: The new regulatory body for Britain's financial *services industry is formally* launched tomorrow .... Page 48

Currency crunch: Foreign exchange dealers anxiously await Gordon Brown's Commons statement on Britain's position on European monetary union and the single currency................. Page 48

Zantac zapped: Less than three months since first being exposed to unbranded competition, Glaxo Wellcome's top-selling Zantac ulcer drug has lost more than half its US sales to rivals .... Page 48

Liberty siege: Brian Myerson, the South African investor, has joined with the members of the Stewart-Liberty family to unseat chairman Denis Cassidy .... Page 48

SPORT

Motor racing: Jacques Villeneuve won the Formula One world *championship after surviving a col*lision that put Michael Schumacher out of the European Grand Prix.......................... Pages 25, 27

Football: On a difficult day for the top clubs, Arsenal lost the chance to regain their lead of the FA Premiership after drawing with Aston Villa, while Chelsea were beaten by lowly Bolton Wanderers ...Page 29

Tennis: Petr Korda neutralised the serving power of Richard Krajicek, the former Wimbledon champion, to earn a convincing victory in the final of the Eurocard Open in Stuttgart............................Page 26

Rugby union: Newcastle maintained their lead in the Allied Dunbar Premiership...............Page 35

[illegible]

Melvyn Bragg: "Are there any general reasons for what seems a sudden *clustering of British writers* taking up the recently despised historical novel?" .... Page 18

Turner protest: A gang of angry artists is planning to demonstrate on the steps of the Tate Gallery this week against everything the Turner Prize represents .... Page 18

Actor reborn: Whatever illusions one may cherish about Desmond Barrit as a purely comic actor, scrap them now. *He is* Eddie Carbone in a revival of Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge* ....Page 19

Belated bow: *Vortigern*, written by William Henry Ireland 200 years ago, receives its first professional production ....Page 19

[illegible]

Thinking ahead: Does extra-sensory perception exist? Anjana Anjuna *meets a scientist risking his career* on seeking the evidence..... Page 15

Stoned in jail: Drugs provide a mental escape behind bars. A charity is helping prisoners to kick the habit..................................Page 16

Food in fashion: Fineboned, fragile and in fishnet tights, Claudia Schiffer talks about the opening of her new café, her career, and David Copperfield.........................Page 17

[illegible]

Pakistan and Bangladesh: Special reports on two nations that have revived democracies and rehabilitated economies.......... Pages 40, 41

[illegible]

It is one month since the first earthquake struck Umbria, and the reaction has illustrated both the merits and defects of Italian national character: there have been incidents of heroism and intelligence, but also of bureaucracy and inertia

— *La Repubblica*

[illegible]

10, 21, 27, 38, 40, 44. Bonus 34.

Four shared the jackpot of more than £8 million, winning £2,021,318 each. Twenty three won £108,164 each for five balls plus the bonus ball and 1,140 won £1,363 each for five numbers; 58,725 each won £58 with four balls and 1,098,830 won £10 each with three numbers.

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ ARTS

The painter with a bad *temper: Paris honours* Georges de La Tour in a new exhibition

■ LAW

Why do French crime inquiries so often take longer than British investigations?

[illegible]

Preview: New sport-based show, *On Side* (BBC1, 10.40pm). *Review: Sex and Chocolate* rested on two improbabilities, writes Matthew Bond..................................Page 47

OPINION

No means no

It may be a chastened Chancellor who rises this afternoon to clarify policy on the single currency, but Gordon Brown should not be repentant ....Page 21

Lockerbie and justice

On the central point, however, Mr Cook cannot shift: a Scottish court can deliver impartial justice. The accused men must face their accusers ....Page 21

Wheel of fortune

Motor racing desperately needed the season that concluded with the European Grand Prix yesterday. The sport had become dangerously predictable...............................Page 21

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

It is hubris for speculators to bet against the rising economic power of the 21st century when the world is so close to the new century beginning. That is like betting against Britain in 1800, or America in 1900. One should always show respect to *the rising sun* .... Page 20

ANGELICA GOODDEN

The great Scottish portraitist Sir Henry Raeburn has arrived at the National Portrait Gallery in London and the exhibition looks likely to be greeted as enthusiastically as it was earlier this year in his native Edinbugh. But what can possibly account for the British love of portraiture? .... Page 20

PETER RIDDELL

Tony, I was told by a member of the Blair inner circle, is "well aware what a disaster it's been". The confusion and recriminations of the past ten days have been about much more than the European single currency...................... Page 20

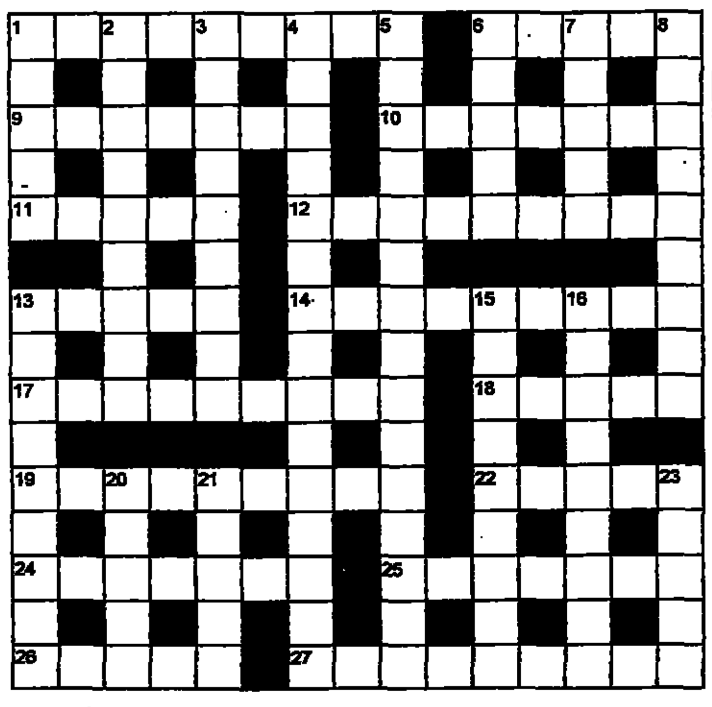
OBITUARIES

Captain Roger Hicks, hero of the evacuation of Boulogne, 1940; **Richard Mason,** author of *The World of Suzie Wong*; **Professor A. H. W. Beck,** physicist.............Page 23

LETTERS

Entry into EMU; "living wills"; Oxbridge intake; favourite first lines.......................................Page 21

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,621



ACROSS

1 Chapter on tract in a wild southern region (9).
6 Half-heartedly shuffle plunder (5).
9 One deliberately deceiving old man about pound (7).
10 Peel's queen, perhaps (4,3).
11 Place near London where she resides? Not entirely (5).
12 Plenty of storage space here in Herts home (9).
13 Serious novelist, by the sound of it (5).
14 Handy cleaners may have it at their finger-tips (4-5).
17 Nutty flavour, to one chap, is awful (9).
18 Composer making record for audience (5).
19 Considers drink — tisane, possibly (9).
22 Employees retained by press chief to edit (5).
24 Cutter observed by crew (4-3).
25 Stupid description of Dostoyevsky's hero (7).
26 See about artillery's retreat in good time (5).
27 Besides pork pies, a loaf is in store (4,5).

DOWN

1 Maiden in island turned up for leisurely walk (5).
2 Bad luck, Head showing such intractability (9).
3 Advert and article about purpose of plebiscites (9).
4 Admit defeat and include the dryer for no extra charge (5,2,3,5).
5 One choir remains discordant, whatever happens (4,4,2,5).
6 Head of bank leaves local office for farm (5).
7 Shawl originally found in central Manchuria (5).
8 Beg honoured companion to go in for the high jump? (9).
13 Sheep he's left on farmland apt to be cut off (9).
15 As a performer, she may be winning on points (9).
16 Girl taking the female inside to draw (9).
20 Sound style for a country house (5).
21 Unpleasant name given to a place of debauchery (5).
23 Gambled, securing diamonds, diamonds, and more diamonds (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

The solution of *Saturday's Prize* Puzzle No 20,620 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20 book token.

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.45 am
Sun sets: 4.43 pm
Moon sets 3.26 pm
Moon rises 2.23 am

New moon October 31

London 4.43 pm to 6.47 am
Bristol 4.53 pm to 6.57 am
Edinburgh 4.44 pm to 7.11 am
Manchester 4.46 pm to 7.00 am
Penzance 5.08 pm to 7.05 am

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Recycled paper made up 43.6% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** Northern and eastern Scotland will have rain this morning, but sunny periods this afternoon. Southwest Scotland and Northern Ireland dry with sunny spells. Dry across England and Wales; some areas becoming cloudy, with sunshine returning. A brisk southeasterly breeze will add to the chill

Tonight, eastern Scotland and the eastern half of northern Ireland will be cloudy at times, and northwest Scotland will have a few spots of rain. Elsewhere, a cold and mainly clear night with a fairly widespread frost.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E Midlands:** Dry; broken cloud and sunny spells. Moderate east to southeast wind. Max 13C (55F)

☐ **Cent S England, W Midlands, S Wales:** Dry, mainly sunny after early fog clears. Mod E to SE wind. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Cloudy; drizzle possible. Moderate south to southeast wind. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, N Wales:** Dry and sunny. Moderate to fresh E to SE wind Max 14C (57F)

☐ **NW, Cent N England, Lakes, IoM, SW, NW Scotland:** Dry; sunshine and banks of cloud. Mod SE wind. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll:** Fine and dry with sunny spells. Moderate SE wind. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **N Ireland:** Cloudy in east; generally dry, sunny periods. Mod SE wind. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** Bright or sunny intervals; perhaps a shower in west. Fresh or strong E to SE wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Outlook:** Scotland should see some rain tomorrow; elsewhere staying dry and quite sunny but chilly.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.3	0.01	11	52	r
Anglesey	2.0	-	11	52	b
Aspatria	X				
Aviemore	-	0.01	9	48	c
Belfast	1.3	0.01	10	50	du
Birmingham	4.6	-	10	50	b
Bognor R	9.5	-	14	57	s
Bournem'th	X				
Bristol	3.3	-	12	54	b
Buxton	X				
Cardiff	0.9	-	9	48	c
Clacton	1.8	-	11	52	du
Cleethorpes	-	-	12	54	c
Colwyn Bay	X				
Cromer	X				
Dunbar	X				
Eastbourne	X				
Edinburgh	*0.6*	-	*11*	*52*	*c*
Eskdalemuir	-	-	7	45	c
Exmouth	X				
Falmouth	7.6	-	14	57	s
Fishguard	0.5	-	11	52	c
Folkestone	X				
Glasgow	3.5	-	11	52	s
Guernsey	8.9	-	15	59	s
Hastings	X				
Hayling I.	X		13	55	s
Herne Bay	X				
Hove	7.1	-	13	55	s
Hunstanton	X				

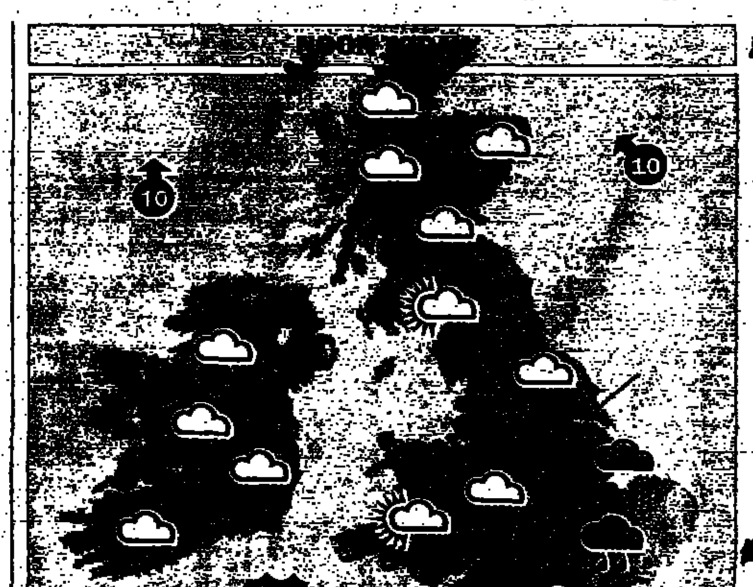
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Isle-of-man	--	-	10	50	c
Isle-of-wight	X				
Jersey	X				
Kinloss	-	0.01	11	52	r
Leeds	0.4	-	12	54	c
Lerwick	-	0.05	5	41	r
Leuchars	3.6	-	12	54	s
Littlehmptn	X				
London	8.3	-	14	57	s
Lowestoft	X				
Manchester	3.7	-	10	50	b
Margate	X				
Minehead	X				
Morecambe	X				
Newcastle	-		10	50	c
Newquay	X				
Norwich	1.4	-	13	55	c
Oxford	X				
Penzance	X				
Salcombe	7.5	-	13	55	s
Saunton Snd	5.4	-	15	59	s
Shrewsbury	2.3	-	8	46	fg
Stornoway	4.4	0.01	12	54	b
Swanage	2.2	-	13	55	b
Teignmouth	1.4	-	13	55	c
Tenby	0.5	-	12	54	du
Tiree	-	0.01	12	54	c
West-s-mare	-	-	12	54	c

We apologise for the lack of data, caused by technical problems beyond our control

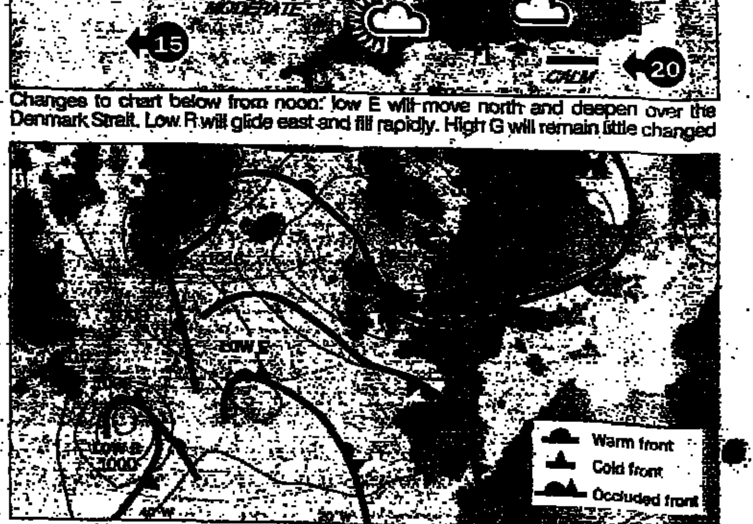
ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	21	70	s	C'phagn	3	37	s	Malaga	24	75	f	S Paulo	X		
Akrotiri	24	75	s	Dublin	9	48	c	Malta	21	70	c	Salzburg	4	39	r
Alex'dria	28	82	f	Dubrovnik	16	63	s	Melb'rne	32	90	s	Santiago	23	73	s
Algiers	26	79	s	Faro	20	68	c	Mexico C	X			Seoul	11	52	f
Amst'dm	11	52	c	Florence	17	63	s	Miami	30	86	f	Sing'por	33	91	f
Athens	16	61	f	Frankfurt	9	48	c	Milan	14	57	f	St'kholm	1	34	f
B Aires	26	79	f	Funchal	24	75	c	Montreal	6	43	s	Strasb'rg	11	52	f
Bahrain	29	84	s	Geneva	10	50	s	Moscow	-1	30	r	Sydney	27	81	s
Bangkok	33	91	f	Gibraltar	22	72	s	Munich	5	41	c	Tangier	23	73	f
Barbados	31	88	f	Helsinki	-1	30	c	N Delhi	24	75	f	Tel Aviv	29	84	s
Barcelona	19	66	f	Hong K	24	75	c	N York	10	50	f	Tenerife	27	81	f
Beirut	28	82	f	Innsbrck	8	46	f	Nairobi	27	81	f	Tokyo	19	66	c
Belgrade	10	50	s	Istanbul	11	52	f	Naples	21	70	s	Toronto	X		
Berlin	6	43	f	Jeddah	34	93	s	Nice	19	66	s	Tunis	23	73	f
Bermuda	24	75	f	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Oslo	5	41	s	Valencia	24	75	s
Biarritz	17	63	s	Karachi	X			Paris	13	55	s	Vanc'ver	10	50	r
Bordx	19	66	s	L Angels	21	70	s	Peking	15	59	s	Venice	13	55	s
Brussels	11	52	s	L Palmas	25	77	s	Perth	21	70	s	Vienna	5	41	s
Budapest	5	41	f	Le Touquet	13	55	f	Prague	4	39	f	Warsaw	3	37	c
Cairo	*33*	*91*	*s*	*Lisbon*	*18*	*64*	*r*	*Reykjavik*	*9*	*48*	*d*	Wash'ton	15	59	f
Cape Tn	18	64	c	Locarno	13	55	s	Rhodes	19	66	f	Wel'ngton	13	55	X
Ch'church	13	55	X	Luxembg	9	48	c	Rio de J	26	79	f	Zurich	9	48	s
Chicago	7	45	r	Luxor	32	90	s	Riyadh	22	72	f				
Cologne	10	50	f	Madrid	19	66	f	Rome	19	66	f				
Corfu	19	66	s	Majorca	22	72	f	S Fr'sco	17	63	s				

Temperatures at midday local time on Saturday X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low E will move north and deepen over the Denmark Strait. Low R will glide east and fill rapidly. High G will remain little changed



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.08	6.2	23.41	6.5
Aberdeen	11.04	3.7	23.11	3.8
Avonmouth	04.19	10.8	16.41	11.4
Belfast	08.26	3.0	20.27	3.3
Cardiff	04.05	10.1	16.27	10.6
Devonport	02.54	4.7	15.09	4.9
Dover	08.24	5.8	20.57	5.8
Dublin (N Wall)	09.13	3.6	21.25	3.8
Falmouth	02.25	4.5	14.39	4.7
Greenock	10.15	3.1	22.06	3.2
Harwich	08.59	3.3	21.34	3.6
Holyhead	07.59	4.8	20.09	5.0
Hull (Albert D)	03.30	7.3	16.09	7.4
Ilfracombe	03.13	7.5	15.34	7.9
King's Lynn	03.32	5.5	16.16	5.7

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Leith	00.39	4.7	12.12	4.8
Liverpool	08.39	8.0	20.57	8.3
Lowestoft	06.36	2.3	19.42	2.3
Margate	09.14	4.2	21.57	4.3
Milford Haven	03.28	5.6	15.49	6.0
Newquay	02.25	5.7	14.45	6.0
Oban	03.21	3.3	15.39	3.5
Penzance	01.55	4.6	14.16	4.9
Portland	04.18	1.5	16.16	1.6
Portsmouth	08.54	4.2	21.09	4.0
Shoreham	08.29	5.3	21.00	5.2
Southampton	08.16	4.2	20.30	4.1
Swansea	03.25	7.8	15.51	8.1
Tees	00.38	4.6	13.17	4.6
Walton-on-N	08.56	3.5	21.31	3.7

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Wick, Highland, 0.18in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, west Sussex, 9.5hr.

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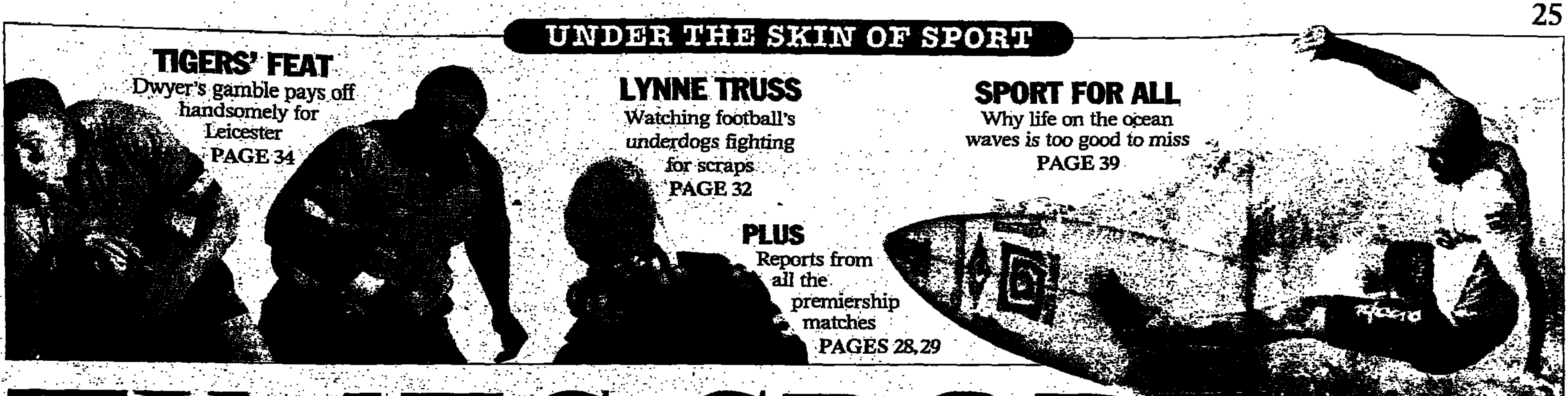
UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT



TIGERS' FEAT
Dwyer's gamble pays off handsomely for Leicester
PAGE 34

LYNNE TRUSS
Watching football's underdogs fighting for scraps
PAGE 32

SPORT FOR ALL
Why life on the ocean waves is too good to miss
PAGE 39

PLUS
Reports from all the premiership matches
PAGES 28, 29

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY OCTOBER 27 1997

CRASH COURSE BACKFIRES ON FORMER CHAMPION

Villeneuve rises above chicanery of Schumacher

Michael Calvin sees the coronation of Formula One's new king amid blazing controversy in Jerez

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER *lost more than a world drivers'* championship in Jerez yesterday afternoon. He sacrificed his reputation in an act of such instinctive cynicism that he forfeited the right to sympathy. Those who came to canonise him stayed to condemn a fundamental flaw in his character.

Schumacher offered no apologies for his blatant attempt to barge the Williams-Renault of Jacques Villeneuve into a gravel trap, *even if the* stewards abjectly abandoned their responsibilities by maintaining the fiction that the collision, on lap 48 of the *European Grand Prix, was no* more than "a racing incident".

The global television audience of 350 million people will prefer to believe the evidence of their own eyes. As Villeneuve said, after clinching the championship by finishing third behind Mika Hakkinen: "Michael *tried to take me off* — but he didn't do it well enough."

Villeneuve was in philosophical mood. He was resigned to Schumacher's warped morality and placated by the natural justice of the German's aggression, which led directly to the loss of his chance of a third world title. Others, led by Damon Hill and his former employer, Frank Williams, were more inclined to apportion blame.

Hill gleaned a perverse, but entirely understandable, sense of satisfaction from Schumacher's disappointment. The incident had too many echoes of his misfortune in 1994, when he lost the title in an all-too convenient accident with the German on the streets of Adelaide.

"Michael showed his true colours and got what he deserved," Hill said. "I said beforehand that I didn't think *he would* do anything like taking Jacques off, because it would destroy his reputation. But what he has done is *underlined in people's minds* just what his antics and tactics are. At least he is consistent."

Williams, whose team also won the constructors' championship for the ninth time, was similarly trenchant in his *comments. "It was Adelaide revisited,"* he said. "Then it was Damon. This time it was Jacques."

The flashpoint came at the Dry Sac curve, where cars decelerate from 185mph, in *seventh gear, to 50mph.* Villeneuve attempted to cut down the inside and surprised Schumacher with his audacity in braking so late. Schumacher, seeing Villeneuve alongside him, deliberately turned into him. His front-right tyre hit the Williams-Renault, leaving slashes of exposed metal along the side of the cockpit. The Ferrari careered off the track, in a cloud of tyre smoke, and came to rest in a gravel trap.

Schumacher was less than two feet away from the circuit, but could only impotently spin his back wheels. He urged a marshal to push him out of trouble, but eventually accepted the inevitable. He slowly detatched his steering wheel, hitched a lift to the pits on the back of a scooter and stalked silently into the Ferrari *motorhome.*

He emerged only to face the stewards, who cravenly accepted the illusion of innocence. "I do not feel I made a *mistake" Schumacher insisted,* to widespread scorn. Significantly enough, Bernie Ecclestone, the pivotal influence in Formula One, said: "I *didn't* expect Schumacher to do something like that. I'm disappointed in the way it ended."

Villeneuve's first instinct was to use sardonic humour to defuse the situation. "Either *Michael had his eyes* closed or his hands slid on the steering wheel," he said, before quickly recognising the uncomfortable realities of the afternoon.

"I was not really surprised when Michael turned into me," he said. " I knew I was taking a big risk and I thought he had broken my car. It jumped in the air when he banged wheels and it just didn't feel stable for the rest of the race. I was surprised I could finish the race *but* luckily, he went off.

"He had only himself to blame. It was not a small thing, a miscalculation. I just think I surprised him. I was way behind him when he *looked in his mirrors, but I* braked later than we both thought possible. Suddenly, I was beside him. I caught him out, basically."

Third place, behind the McLaren-Mercedes pair of Hakkinen and David Coulthard, was sufficient to give Villeneuve the championship. A cannon, fired from the roof of a motorhome, signalled the start of a long night's celebration. "Jacques did a world champion's job today," Williams said. " I was more nervous than ever before, and *he coped tremendously well."* Coulthard said: "Jacques deserves the title," but Hill, the retiring champion, deserved the final word. "I'm so pleased *for him," he said. "He is a nice* man and what Michael did was unnecessary."

Few, even in the funeral parlour of the Ferrari garage, were inclined to disagree.

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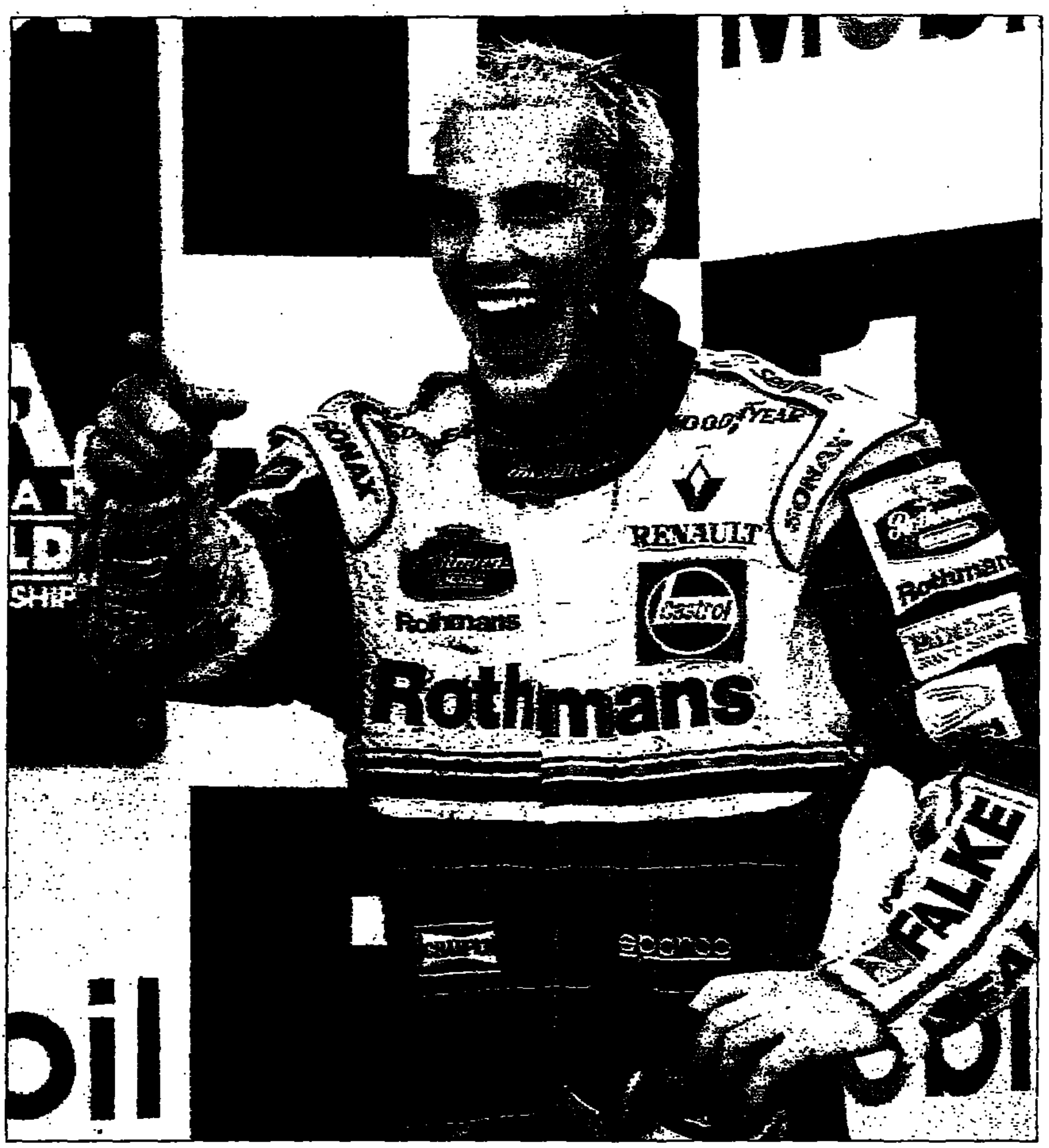
A dejected Schumacher walks around the Ferrari pit



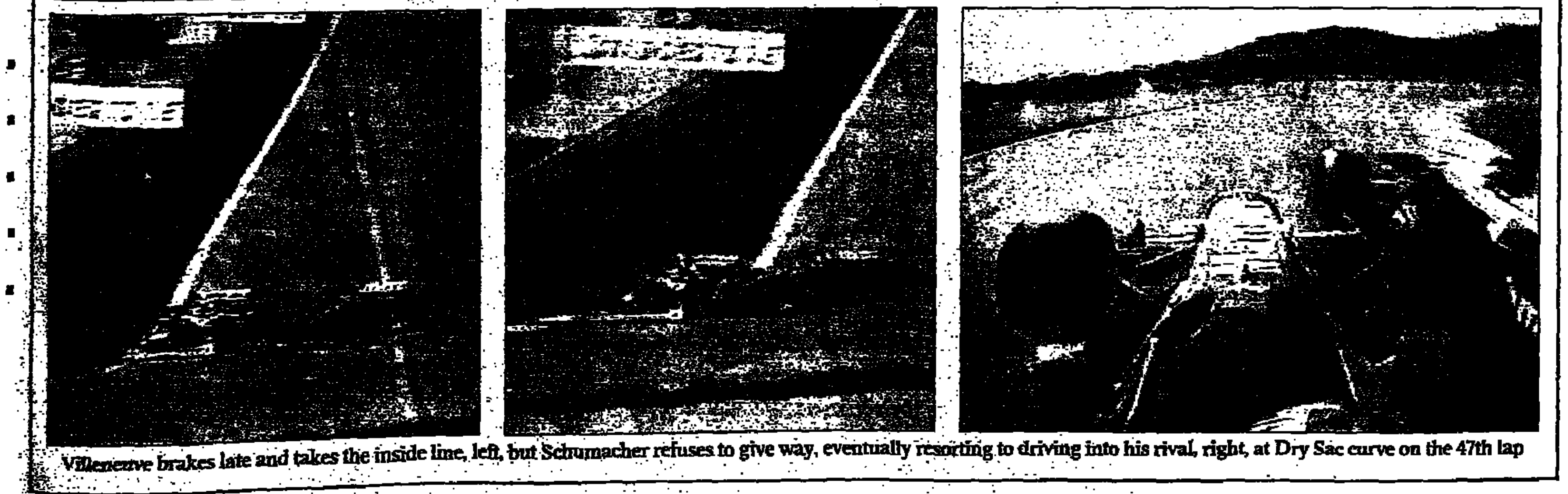
Villeneuve celebrates his third place yesterday, which was enough to give him his first world drivers' championship

WORLD DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS

1	J Villeneuve (Can)	81pts	11	J Herbert (GB)	15
2	M Schumacher (Ger)	78	12	R Schumacher (Ger)	13
3	H-H Frentzen (Ger)	42	13	D Hill (GB)	7
4	J Alesi (Fr)	36	14	R Barrichello (Br)	6
5	D Coulthard (GB)	36	15	A Wurz (Austria)	4
6	M Hakkinen (Fin)	27	16	J Trulli (It)	3
7	G Berger (Austria)	27	17	M Salo (Fin)	2
8	E Irvine (GB)	24		S Nakano (Japan)	2
9	G Fisichella (It)	20		P Diniz (Bra)	2
10	O Panis (Fr)	16	19	N Larini (It)	1

WORLD CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS

1	Williams-Renault	123pts	6	Prost-Mugen Honda	21
2	Ferrari	102	7	Sauber-Petronas	16
3	Benetton-Renault	67	8	Arrows-Yamaha	9
4	McLaren-Mercedes	63	9	Stewart-Ford	6
5	Jordan-Peugeot	33	10	Tyrrell-Ford	2



Villeneuve brakes late and takes the inside line, left, but Schumacher refuses to give way, eventually resorting to driving into his rival, right, at Dry Sac curve on the 47th lap

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TENNIS: CZECH'S VICTORY SHOWS BENEFIT OF FINALLY SUBMITTING TO LONG-DELAYED OPERATION

Korda cuts Krajicek down to size

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN STUTTGART

THIS is not a sport on which to dwell occasionally. Such an approach would promote bafflement that Petr Korda was ranked outside the world's top ten, that thousands do not queue to watch him perform and that Korda, by humbling Richard Krajicek in the Eurocard Open final, was winning his first tournament in 21 months.

These details seem positively absurd in the light of Korda's performance this week. He outclassed Patrick Rafter, the world No 3, in the semi-finals on Saturday before playing Delilah to Krajicek's Samson in front of a spellbound audience here yesterday. So effectively did he neutralise Krajicek's strength that the Dutchman was beaten long before he eventually succumbed after 93 compelling minutes. "I didn't even have a break point," Krajicek said ruefully. "I didn't even have a chance to get a break point."

Korda, 29, is an enigma in every sense. The purest striker of a ball on the ATP Tour, he moves remarkably poorly. This is the man who dismissed Pete Sampras, the world No 1, in the US Open — only to retire from his next match with a "head cold". If his natural talent should have already seen him stamp an indelible imprint on the game, separate operations to both sides of his groin may have afforded him a second chance.

It was Tony Pickard, the coach to Greg Rusedski, who bullied Korda, from the Czech Republic, into submitting to the scalpel. An in-built fear of surgery saw Korda play through 18 months of pain before finally relenting two years ago. "People didn't believe I was injured, but deep inside I always knew how to play tennis," Korda said yesterday. "Tony will be a friend for life; he has done so much for me. Before he left this week, he told me to win the tournament. I owe him a good dinner after this."

Whatever the precise cause of his rehabilitation, Korda's return to the top ten after a lapse of four years is particularly welcome. The opening set saw this final threaten to descend to the realms of a hollow shoot-out until Korda snared a precious advantage. Krajicek had dropped just two points in his six preceding service games, but two more in the tie-break opened wounds too severe to stem.

That loss demoralised the Dutchman as much as it inspired Korda, who opened the second set with a blistering sequence of clean passes against Krajicek's mighty service. The tide was irreversible, with winners flowing in abundance from Korda's racket. The disguise and accuracy of his passing shots made Krajicek appear as though cast in stone. "He can hit a winner from any position," the Dutchman said.

Korda's victory, by 7-6, 6-2, 6-4, also went some way towards consoling Rusedski, whose second-round exit rendered him vulnerable in the race towards Hanover and the ATP Tour world championship. Victory for Krajicek would have hoisted him on to Rusedski's heels; instead, he lies in twelfth place, four below the cut-off point for qualification.

Rusedski remains in fourth place. A prominent showing in Paris this week — where Tim Henman plays Hicham Arazi in the opening round today — will effectively secure the Briton's passage. The Paris event may have been weakened by a spate of withdrawals, but Korda will be there, waiting to ambush Sampras, his favourite prey, in the third round. On this evidence, Sampras will not relish their meeting one bit.

Korda demonstrates perfect poise in negating the raw power of Krajicek yesterday. Photograph: Thomas Keinzle

Britain continue upward trend

BY ALIX RAMSAY

ANOTHER year, another victory. On Saturday morning, Louise Latimer secured Great Britain's fifth consecutive victory in the Maureen Connolly Trophy when her 5-7, 6-3, 6-0 win over Jackie Trail gave the home side an unassailable 6-3 lead over the United States.

In the overall scheme of things, this annual under-21s' contest counts for little, save for the experience gained by the young hopefuls in representing their countries. There is no money to be won, there are no ranking points to be gained, but there is pressure — hell hath no fury like a team-mate let down.

Although the Americans fielded a team of college players while Britain relied on the best available talent, the matches still had to be won and Britain's greatest opponent proved to be nerves. Latimer took time to settle on Saturday, but once she had, she made it look simple and demolished Trail.

The result gave Keith Wooldridge, manager of women's national training, hope that, at last, things are on the right track. The improvements may not be on the scale of Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman's achievements, but the movement is in the right direction. The average ranking for the top six women in the country is around the No 150 mark — 12 months ago, it was No 350.

"We picked this side to try and improve the players for the future," Wooldridge said. "It gives the girls a bit of self-confidence. We can use this as a building block in their development."

SNOOKER

Rank outsider makes his mark

BY PHIL YATES

DOMINIC DALE, who, at various low points of an undistinguished snooker career, has contemplated finding alternative employment, gave himself every chance of becoming the Grand Prix champion by establishing a 5-3 lead over John Higgins in the first session of the final at Bournemouth yesterday.

Dale, the world No 54, was left needing only four of the remaining nine frames to be the lowest-ranked player to win a leading event since Ronnie O'Sullivan captured titles at the 1993 United Kingdom championship and 1994 British Open when ranked No 57.

Ignoring those who dismissed him as nothing more than cannon-fodder for Higgins, Dale, quoted as a 100-1 pre-tournament outsider by the bookmakers, had the opportunity to take an even stronger grip on the match when he moved 5-1 ahead.

Potting vital balls and enjoying good fortune at timely moments — particularly when clearing to the pink in the second frame after escaping a snooker to pot the last red — Dale put Higgins under immediate pressure.

This showed itself in an unusually high number of unforced errors from the normally reliable Scot, who could well have found himself 6-0 adrift had it not been for the excellent 61 clearance with which he stole the fifth on the black.

Even so, a 5-1 deficit was bad enough for Higgins. He responded by winning the closing two frames of the afternoon with breaks of 71 and 98 to move back into contention.

Higgins was encouraged by his finish and knows that his opponent still had some psychological bridges to cross before collecting the £60,000 first prize.

Higgins: unforced errors

Jimmy White, no stranger to the disappointment of ending a competition on which he had pinned high hopes with an unexpected defeat, was afflicted by an unfathomable inability to pot key balls when he lost 6-2 to Dale in the semi-finals on Saturday night.

Over the course of the opening four frames, White aggregated only 50 points less than Dale and was responsible for three of the four highest breaks, yet still entered the mid-session interval 4-0 down.

Dale, commendably cool despite the alien environment of such an important occasion, claimed one frame on the brown, two others on the pink and one on the black. "Jimmy is everyone's hero," Dale said. "Everyone thought he would win and he was under an awful lot of pressure."

White said: "I am frustrated because I just didn't compete." At least he will draw consolation from arresting an alarming slide down the Embassy world rankings, which saw him start the season at No 31 on the provisional list.

FINAL: D Dale (Wales) leads J Higgins (Scot) 5-3. Frame scores (Dale first): 73-0, 57-44, 69-59, 78-17, 59-70, 81-31, 1-77, 0-98.

ATHLETICS

Radcliffe casts aside her woes

TWO weeks ago, Paula Radcliffe learnt that the British Athletic Federation could not pay the £15,000 it owes her (David Powell writes). Last week, one of her big ambitions, to set a 5,000 metres world record, was effectively moved beyond her reach by the Chinese. Nothing for it then but to cast cares aside and run in the AAA of England national women's road relays.

A sunny autumnal day at Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield, was ideal for that yesterday. This year, Radcliffe has won the New York mile, broken the British 5,000 metres record, won a world cross country silver medal and placed fourth in the 5,000 metres at the world championships. Yet she said: "This gives me as much pleasure, more even. "There is nothing wrong with the sport here. It is healthy, judging by the atmosphere and number of teams. At least you know that 100 per cent of the people here are competing fairly and that is not something that, hand on heart, I could say for a lot of races."

This, though, was not a day to dwell on gloom but to celebrate. Radcliffe's club, Bedford and County, won the senior title for the first time. Radcliffe ran the fastest time of the day, 13min 55sec for 4,350 metres. Next stops are Barbados and Honolulu, where she will seek to make the money she needs for winter training, now that the BAF is in administration and she is out of pocket.

BASKETBALL

Royals seek American aid

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

THE arrival of two new Americans cannot come soon enough for Watford Royals. Stranded at the foot of the Budweiser League, where they finished in each of the past two seasons, the Hertfordshire club is without a win after 11 games of the present campaign and straining more than ever the league's leniancy in allowing them to retain their status.

Once a work permit is processed for Phil Powe, a 6ft 8in forward from East Tennessee, and the signing is completed of Cleave Lewis, a three-time championship winner with Worthing Bears, the Royals' owner, Vince Macaulay-Razaq, trusts that his club will be able to compete against the best.

"It is quite clear they will make a difference," he said after a 95-82 defeat at Leicester Riders on Saturday. Assuming that Lewis signs, he will be able to help with the coaching, which is presently the responsibility of Macaulay-Razaq himself, since, for the second season running, he has dispensed with his appointed coach after a mere handful of fixtures.

Surprisingly for a squad so down on its luck, the Royals' players are anything but resigned. Their spirit was personified by Ray Schultz, their top scorer on Saturday with 22 points, who, in three seasons with the club, has known nothing but strife. "If I didn't care, it wouldn't bother me so much," the Philadelphian said, "but I take each loss so much to heart."

Schultz inspired a third-quarter revival when the Royals briefly looked like a team capable of breaking their duck. Adrift by 45-29 at the interval, they then employed a press, drawing level at 60-60 with a three-pointer from Jimmy Ratcliff. The effort took its toll, however, and they succumbed wearily to yet another loss.

The Riders, who had ended their run of four successive defeats two days earlier in a 136-134 win over Derby Storm in triple-overtime, were led by Billy Singleton's 26 points. The Watford game was played amid rather less acrimony than the one on Thursday, when the referee, Mick Howell, was accidently struck by Brian Balser, the Derby player, while trying to break up a locker-room fracas.

GOLF

Nicholas celebrates outstanding double

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN DEAUVILLE

ALISON NICHOLAS, of Great Britain, added the European No 1 ranking to her women's US Open crown when she finished second, two strokes behind Loraine Lambert, of Australia, in the Air France Madame Open at the new Golf de Deauville course yesterday.

Nicholas needed to finish in the first two here to achieve her ambition, but, with three holes to play, she was five over par and six strokes behind Valerie Michaud, of France, with Lambert in the clubhouse on level-par 213 after a final round of 69. "I was struggling on the greens and told myself to give it a go over the last three holes," Nicholas, who conjured a marvellous three birdies in the closing holes, said afterwards.

Michaud dropped shots at the 16th and 17th and took a double-bogey six at the last to finish joint-third with Shani Waugh, of Australia, one shot behind Nicholas.

Nicholas is scheduled to fly to Japan today for two tournaments, but will return to play for the European Tour side that will face the Seniors in the inaugural Praia D'El Rey European Cup match in Portugal on November 14-16. Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, of France, will captain the Tour side in a playing role.

HOCKEY: CANNOCK ONLY UNBEATEN PREMIER TEAM AS THE WEST WITNESSES A RESURRECTION

Bhatti exacts revenge

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

AFTER Southgate's 3-1 loss at home to East Grinstead yesterday, Cannock are on top of the table and the only unbeaten side in the National League premier division. East Grinstead's stronger running, inspired by Bhatti, gave them a hard-earned victory and revenge for the earlier 3-2 defeat by Southgate.

All the scoring was done in the second half. Bhatti put East Grinstead ahead from a short corner in the 58th minute; Attala equalised from a penalty stroke a minute later. Late goals by Speed and Barnes, from a penalty stroke, sealed victory for East Grinstead, who had beaten Teddington 2-1 on Saturday.

Cannock followed their 4-1 victory against Barford Tigers on Saturday with a 4-0 home win against Beeston yesterday. Canterbury, who had earlier beaten the title-holders, Reading, 4-0, defeated them again, 4-3, yesterday. Hounslow, having lost 3-1 to Southgate on Saturday, dropped to sixth after losing 4-2 to Teddington yesterday.

Surbiton and Havant share the leadership of the first division with full points from four matches.

Taunton surge ahead

BY CATHY HARRIS

TAUNTON Vale had a tough time time avoiding relegation last season, but after a remarkable resurgence this year, they are level with Robinsons, the champions, at the head of the West of England and South Wales League.

The Somerset side's 6-1 victory over Bristol University and Robinsons' 5-2 triumph over Whitchurch leaves nothing separating the two teams. Two goals by Alex Robins and further strikes from Ian King, Dave Phillips and Ryan Dudley steered the holders to their win, with the midfield players, Adrian Cheek and James Webber, netting two apiece for Taunton. Matthew Berry and Paul Langford also scored.

Harborne, the leaders, nearly paid the price for a sloppy second half performance against Hampton but held on to win 5-3 and extend their 100 per cent record, giving them a three-point lead in the DTZ Midlands League premier division. Ravi Bharj scored a penalty corner and converted a stroke, Andy Litchfield scored two and Alex Bale completed the scoreline.

Peterborough held on to top spot in the Adnams East League with a 3-1 victory over Bishop's Stortford.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Nicol puts career before Scotland

SQUASH: Peter Nicol, the world No 3, whose victories over Jansher Khan this season have made him the favourite for the World Open championship in Kuala Lumpur next month, in Jansher's self-imposed absence, has refused to play for Scotland in the subsequent world team championship (Colin McQuillan writes). England are expected to defend the team title in strength.

Scotland had high hopes, with Jansher also electing not to enter the team event to avoid a child maintenance suit in Malaysia. Nicol, 24, has told Scottish Squash that his individual career is too delicately balanced during this period to expend valuable energy in pursuit of a team title.

McGinley rules in Madrid

GOLF: Paul McGinley, from Ireland, took the £75,000 first prize for winning the Oki Pro-Am in Madrid yesterday. McGinley, 30, shot a final round of 69 to finish 22 under par on 266, beating Iain Pyman, from Leeds, by four shots and Greg Turner, of New Zealand, by seven. Pyman's 64 yesterday earned him £50,000 and his Tour card for next year. ☐ Joanne Morley, the Solheim Cup player from Sale, and Diane Barnard, from Weybridge, won full players' cards at the US LPGA final qualifying school tournament at Daytona Beach, Florida.

Watson does London proud

ROWING: Ian Watson, of London, the lightweight international, won the Marlow Sculls on Saturday with a six-second margin over Guy Pooley, of Leander. London produced a hat-trick of men's wins and the Marlow women did the same. One of the Marlow successes came for Kath Bishop, whose last-minute illness at the world championships in September probably cost her, and Great Britain, a medal.

Penalty winner cashes in

FOOTBALL: The biggest sum of money guaranteed to a fan in a football promotion — £107,000 — was won yesterday by the only competitor in a penalty shootout who nominated somebody else to take his kicks. Five winners of a slogan competition took part and John Flynn, 42, representing Finbarr Long, 45, from Cork, won in the third round. Ten-year-old Chris Squire went out in the second round.

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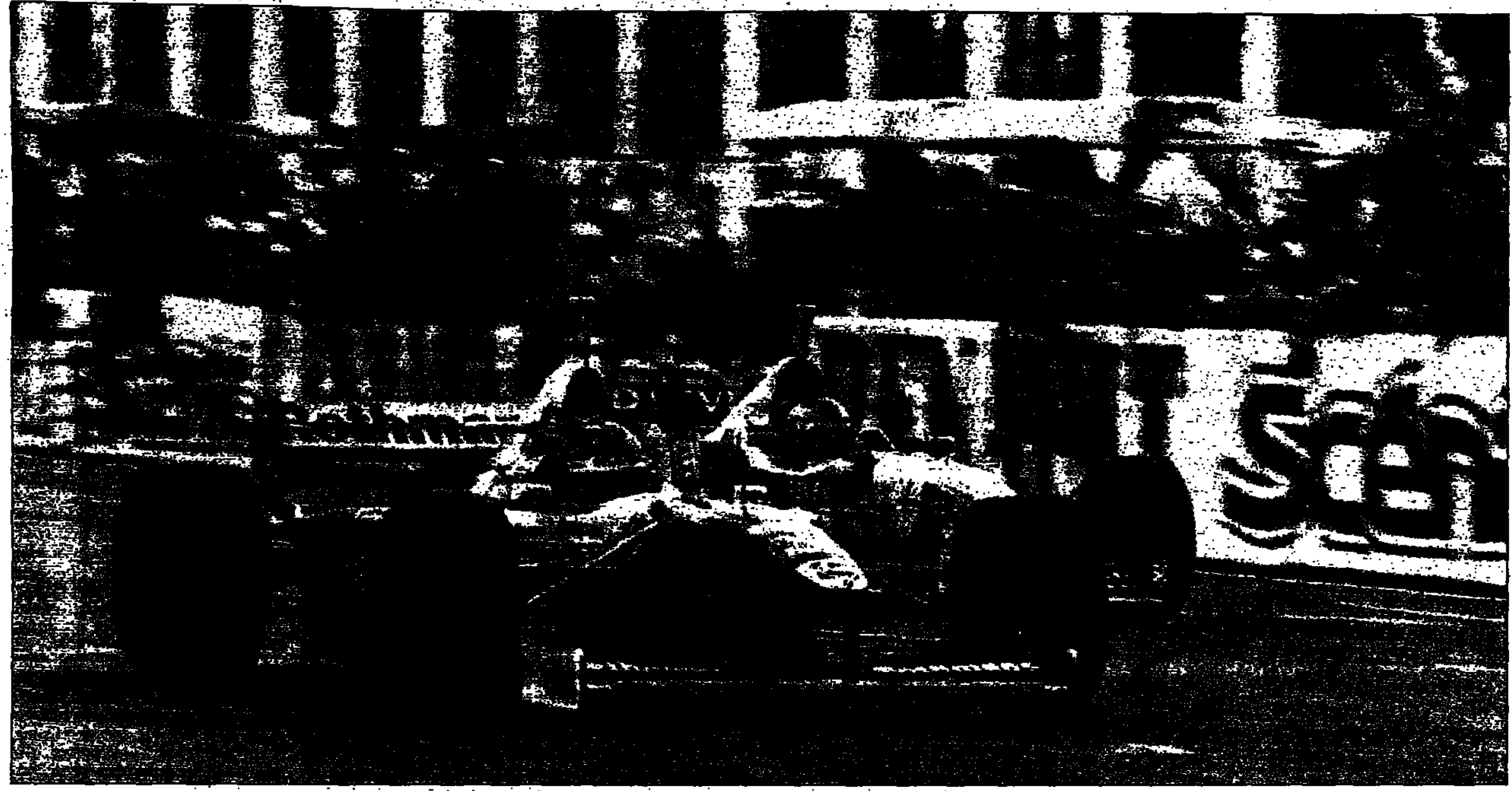
Canadian can lay claim to title of world's greatest driver after display of skill and nerve secures crown

PHOTOGRAPHS: MIKE COOPER AND MARK THOMPSON / ALLSPORT



The moment when Villeneuve knew he had become the world Formula One champion of 1997 — he crosses the line in third place in the European Grand Prix in Jerez

Fitting reward for true champion

FROM MICHAEL CALVIN
IN JEREZ

JACQUES VILLENEUVE was the world Formula One champion. He looked out from the podium yesterday afternoon, waved at the crowds lining the parched hillsides of Jerez and *struggled to contain emotions* he could barely comprehend. He did not need victory for vindication, because the European Grand Prix was more of a parable than a race.

Third place was enough to guarantee the title and generate a poetic sense of justice, but *his* forthright criticism of Michael Schumacher was suffused by a fleeting sadness. *Villeneuve* was reflective, rather than bitter, and was struck by unexpected feelings of gratitude towards the mechanics who wore vivid yellow wigs in his honour.

It was as if his achievement was *so complete, so personal,* that he was initially insulated from its impact. He shared *Mika Hakkinen's joy at his first* win, appreciated the enormity of the controversy he had sparked by the overtaking *ma*noeuvre that won him the title, but was drained by the sudden reversal of roles.

Conventional wisdom con*demned him as an immature arriviste* before the final race of a schizophrenic season. He finished it as a hero, a supposed answer to the excesses of the Me Generation. *His* gesture, in allowing the McLaren pair of Hakkinen and David Coulthard past on the last lap, might have been made out of self-preservation, but it was being hailed as the epitome of sportsmanship.

"It will take some time for all this to sink in," Villeneuve said. "You see what it means in the faces of the team, of the people who are close to you. They've all put in extra hours to make this possible. They've worked at weekends, when they should have been at home with their families.

"It's been such a long season, the sort of season where you lose a lot of hair. There's been so much stress, so much aggravation, but now its over. Finally, the job is done. It's special, very special."

Villeneuve could finally relax, try to make some sense of it all. *He has paid* a heavy price for his individualism, but the title is the ultimate symbol of self-justification. Two years after becoming IndyCar champion, he has laid claim to the unofficial status of the greatest racing driver in the world.

Although any dispassionate judgment still cannot avoid *the conclusion that he lacks* Schumacher's innate ability, his character, another area in which he was presumed to be weak, proved to be surprisingly durable. The momentum of the psychological battle, set by the unique parity of a qualifying session that could not separate the championship rivals, was irresistible.

Coulthard, left, and Hakkinen raise Villeneuve aloft

Schumacher was deliberately distant, aloof. He pointedly ignored Villeneuve yesterday morning, when the pair sat next to each other for the traditional group photograph. The Canadian looked pensive before he climbed into his car and stared out of his crash helmet with watery eyes that emphasised his relative youth.

His mental equilibrium was hardly helped by a poor start. Schumacher, who had been the *epitome of self-control* on the grid, laughing with his pit crew, was alongside him within 100 metres. Villeneuve, who had suffered from excessive wheelspin from the line, erred on the side of caution and even allowed his team-mate, Heinz-*Harald Frentzen, past before* the first bend.

Frentzen, like Eddie Irvine, Schumacher's partner at Ferrari, was to be of minimal consequence. He gave way to Villeneuve on the eighth lap, by which time Schumacher had built a lead of 4.3sec, and the cars quickly became instruments of the rivals' will. *They* traded *fastest* laps, worked at optimum efficiency in what developed into a trial of strength.

"It became such a physical race," Villeneuve said. "We were just pushing, pushing, pushing. It was like a succes*sion of* qualifying laps." His efforts were not in vain, because soon after the first round of pit stops, *he was in* Schumacher's slipstream. Their duel was a succession of feints and parries, swordplay at speed.

Villeneuve was unforgivably blocked by the Sauber of Norbert Fontana, but that was to be a minor irritation. *On lap 48, he was, to use the* typically precise summary of Frank Williams, " in the right place at the right time".

Schumacher's repuation will be forever stained by his response to Villenueve's fateful challenge at the Dry Sac *curve, but Villenueve had to* contain the eccentricities of a damaged car before he could complete the job. In such circumstances, what would have been his eighth victory of the season was an irrelevance.

Hakkinen overtook Coulthard on the penultimate lap and, once he was within range of the leader, who had been *warned of the proximity of* Irvine, took full advantage of his unexpected opportunity. "I wanted to win the championship," Villeneuve said. "Mika wanted his first win. It was a fair exchange."

Fair, indeed. As the sun began to set, Villeneuve was visited by a succession of drivers in the Williams *motorhome. They were led by* Damon Hill, who knew, better than anyone, the way that his mind was racing and his body was pleading for mercy. It is, the former champion will confirm, the sweetest feeling in the world.

Bare-faced cheek of blaming Villeneuve

FROM ROB HUGHES IN JEREZ

As the wheels of futility spun, with Michael Schumacher's stricken Ferrari immovable in the sand, the heads dropped in *the Ferrari pit.* They had spent 47 laps admiring their potential world champion driver; *they had, as professionals in* such a dangerous game must, tried to suppress the pride and the euphoria *that was visible* in their flushed cheeks. And then, in what they would deny was a moment of attempted cheating, the prize was given away.

Et tu, Schumacher? It took two hours and 20 minutes *after* the *collision,* hours in which Schumacher was marched into the stewards *room and marched out again,* apparently exonerated, for him to speak. And then, barefaced, he actually turned the blame on Jacques Villeneuve. "There have been more happy days in my life," Schumacher admitted. "I congratulate him, he did a good season and at the end of the day he has the result. But a mistake? Me?

"I *braked on the maximum,* he braked even later. With this braking point, I wouldn't have made the corner, he wouldn't have made the corner ... he used me a little bit as a brake. In the same circumstances, I wouldn't do *anything different. If I had* not been there, he would have gone a little bit into the grass."

Astounding, *foul words to* camouflage a foul deed that back-fired.

Schumacher is, in my view, without peer as a racing driver; he had shown it for lap after lap, once again drawing a *masterly* veil over the fact *that Ferrari is not yet the* equal of Williams. But then, as Frank Williams, who visited Schumacher in his motor home after the race, darkly said: "It was Adelaide revisited."

Worse things were said behind the pit lane. Italian supporters are more fickle than most and those who have been blessing Schumacher *all* season for making their famous marque so competitive were now devastating in recrimination: "He's a hooligan, and a German!" one said. He was not actually wearing Ferrari uniform, but was a follower *nevertheless.*

Meanwhile, up to that "incident", the Ferrari pit had been a privilege to share. After 18 hollow years of waiting, they were beginning to feel fulfilled from the first, supreme moment on the grid, where Villeneuve conceded that his rival was *phenomenal.*

That start from Schumacher, so smooth, so expert, *so balanced in releasing the* power of combustion, brought relief and hope and longing. *Jean Todt, the little* Napoleonic Frenchman who oversees Ferrari's racing team, had an air of sudden serenity. He can look like a man permanently waiting in the dentist's chair, a man who trusts nothing, who fears the next corner in life.

He, and we, had seen and heard incredible things this *weekend in Jerez. There had* been the unique exactness of three drivers — Villeneuve, Schumacher and Heinz-Harald Frentzen — each clocking the same time, indi*visible to the point of thou*sandth of a second, in qualifying. There had been Max Mosley, the president of the FIA, pronouncing: "Formula One is now a greener sport than athletics — because athletes also put carbon monox*ide into the air and don't put* anything back."

> ' We felt we had heard it all until Schumacher's justification for his villainy '

We felt we had heard it all until Schumacher's justification for his villainy. The words about braking exclude entirely the action of a man who seemed deliberately to steer his car into that of his main competitor when Villeneuve, bravely, daringly, competitively, *darted inside him.* The stewards have shirked their responsibility, their duty to a sport in which the protagonists must be prevented from making such a blatant effort to put a rival out of the contest. Without sharing *the Italian's racist connota*tion, one is left with some sympathy for the use of the word *hooligan.*

THE RACE FOR THE WORLD DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	Australia	Brazil	Argentina	San Marino	Monaco	Spain	Canada	France	Britain	Germany	Hungary	Belgium	Italy	Austria Sept 21	Luxembourg Sept 28	Japan Oct 12	Europe Oct 26	TOTAL
J Villeneuve (Can)		10	10			10		3	10		10	2	2	10	10		4	81
M Schumacher (Ger)	6	2		6	10	3	10	10		6	3	10	1	1		10		78
H-H Frentzen (Ger)				10			3	6				4	4	4	4	6	1	42
J Alesi (Fr)		1		2		4	6	2	6	1			6		6	2		36
D Coulthard (GB)	10					1			3				10	6			6	36
M Hakkinen (Fin)	4	3	2	1						4						3	10	27
G Berger (Austria)	3	6	1							10		1			3		3	27
E Irvine (GB)			6	4	4			4								4	2	24
G Fisichella (It)				3	1		4					6	3	3				20
O Panis (Fr)	2	4			3	6									1			16
J Herbert (GB)			3			2	2				4	3				1		15
R Schumacher (Ger)			4					1	2	2	2			2				13
D Hill (GB)									1		6							7
R Barrichello (Brazil)					6													6
A Wurz (Austria)									4									4
J Trulli (It)										3								3
M Salo (Fin)					2													2
S Nakano (Japan)							1				1							2
P Diniz (Brazil)															2			2
N Larini (It)	1																	1

CONSTRUCTORS' WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

1.	Williams-Renault	123
2.	Ferrari	102
3.	Benetton-Renault	67
4.	West McLaren-Mercedes	63
5.	Jordan-Peugeot	33
6.	Prost-Mugen-Honda	21
7.	Sauber-Petronas	16
8.	Arrows-Yamaha	9
9.	Stewart-Ford	6
10.	Tyrrell-Ford	2

Maranello in mourning

Rob Hughes reflects on the Italian town driven to distraction

In Maranello, the home of Ferrari, 40,000 people had gathered in the town square yesterday. They included Romano Prodi, Italy's highest representative in parliament, and Don Alberto Bernardoni, Maranello's representative to heaven. Prime Minister Prodi left the *town hall* and was *gone from* Maranello soon after "the incident", while the priest, Bernardoni, had to abandon some care*fully-laid plans.*

He had pledged that on November 9, Italy's Thanksgiving Day, he would place a scale model of a *Ferrari on the altar of* the church at Maranello, where he has just replaced a priest who died in a car crash. *Don Bernardoni, listening to "la musica del Motore"* the music that is the Ferrari engine, had also promised peals of *bells for three days and three nights, to* count the Ferrari workers in at 8am and out again at 5pm.

As if by some invisible umbilical cord, when the music stopped at Jerez, Placido Domingo, one of the more visible guests of Ferrari, lamented: "Now it will be difficult for me to sing *Vincerò,* a song written by Pucini, with the message: 'I will win.'"

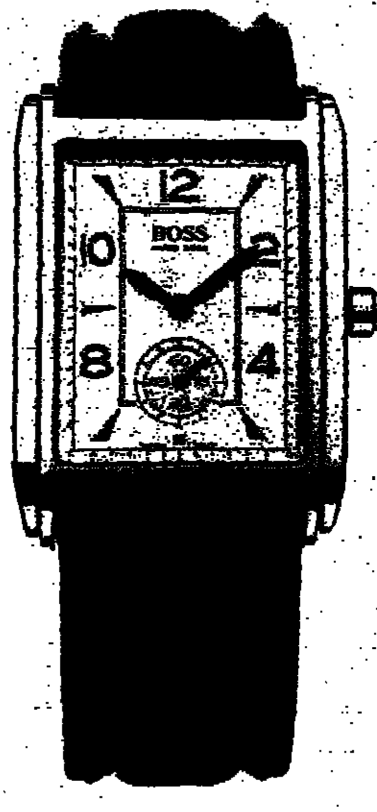
In the afternoon, the deflation as Michael Schumacher's car sank into the pit was mirrored by tears in the crowded Maranello square of Piazza Libertà. The Ferrari friends, rich and poor, well lubricated by free Lambrusco, had literally the urge to paint their square red. They *brought a 250 square-metre Ferrari flag,* they parked four kilometres from the town and walked, they decorated every *window in Ferrari red. And their voices* could be heard ten kilometres away, along the Modena road, where Luciano *Pavarotti, that other tenor, has a* villa.

Maranello, total population 15,000, was dressed for the day of reckoning and as far away as Berne, in Switzerland, members of the local Ferrari Club were revving up their engines, their intention, had Schumacher managed to keep his car on the track, to drive down to join the party, departing one second after the chequered flag.

*Outside the crowded town, it is reck*oned that Italy will have had its biggest television audience since 24 million watched the 1994 World Cup final between Brazil and Italy. That, too, ended in tears ... and one wonders how many were listening when the message finally came from Schumacher to his adopted people?

"I just want to say *grazi* to all *tifosi* for all their support." The *tifosi,* the most *committed, emotional and impassioned* fans of anything that moves on four wheels, will have another day and *Schumacher promised:* "We believe we have given them reason to be happy. As a team we have been, in my view, number *one in the whole world. I hope they* support us again next season, because I believe that, if we can be competitive from *the start, the final day will be much more* exciting, more happy for us to share than this."

A symbol of privilege, *in the sense that* he drives under the prancing horse banner that is adored beyond racing confidence, and yet eternally arrogant, Schumacher finally admitted: "We are human, both of us [he and Villeneuve] can make mistakes. I was very satisfied until that moment, and I hope to satisfy the *tifosi next time.*"



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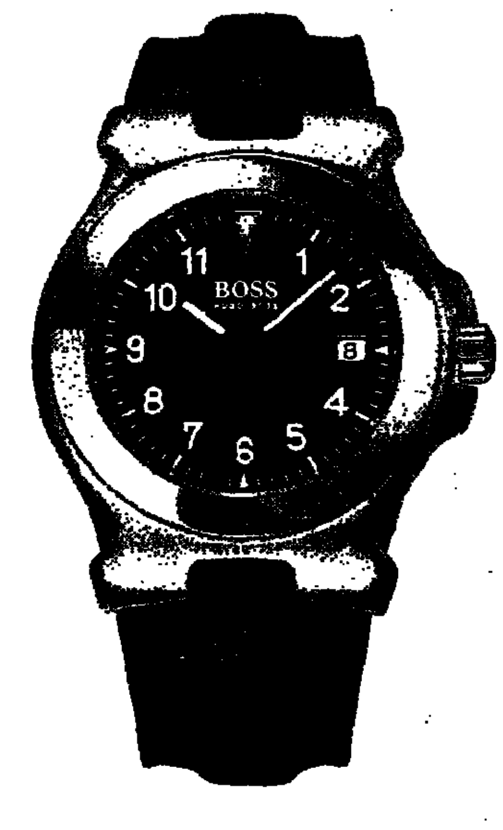

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Premiership new boys humbled as champions scale new heights

Barnsley perish on United's peak

MANCHESTER UNITED 7
BARNSLEY 0

By Mark Hodkinson

Cole and Giggs, the scorers of five goals between them, savour the splendour of supremacy. Photograph: Shaun Botterill / Allsport

A LIGHT smattering of frost covered much of northern England on Saturday and there was a distinct chill in the air. The calendar merely confirmed the obvious: the official end of British Summer Time.

After this comprehensive and cruel defeat, it would also appear to be the end of Barnsley's summer time. They ran into Manchester United in scintillating form and, despite their best intentions, were left bewildered, like accident victims meandering around a hospital casualty department.

"I didn't get a sniff of any of the goals," David Watson, the Barnsley goalkeeper, said. All he and his team-mates were left with was the unpleasant odour of a heavy defeat and professional humiliation. They were extras in a United performance that finally warranted Old Trafford's sniffy sobriquet, the Theatre of Dreams. The Barnsley players had just two roles — to run around valiantly, but pointlessly, and then hang their heads low when the ball went into their net.

"There is a great confidence coming into the club," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said. "We are just on song, absolutely on song. You get performances like this once or twice a season. I don't think you could fault a single Barnsley player. They just didn't have an answer to the speed of our attacks."

Barnsley were allowed custody of the ball for long periods, but they were largely reduced to shuffling sideways across midfield. United, in contrast, tore forward, the ball moving from player to player almost too quickly for the naked eye.

Before the game, Barnsley had promised to remain undaunted and unafraid of their illustrious opponents. That was not even an issue: United were a lizard's tail, impossible to grasp, always two moves ahead, the ball skittering towards the Barnsley penalty area.

Neil Redfearn, the Barnsley captain, cajoled his team-mates and chased every shadow that flickered across his path, but the toil he epitomised was worthless and became effort merely for its own sake against such sublime artistry. When Barnsley did fleetingly encroach on United's private party and trade tackles, they were invariably stung by the speed of thought, the touch of genius, that left them apoplectic, their hands on hips, their hearts in their boots.

United have aspired to greatness for many years and, for 90 minutes on Saturday, it was irrefutably attained. Critics will say that it was only Barnsley, but Barnsley are of the same division and they were made to look like lost souls in football shirts.

The game was decidedly stodgy until the first goal after 17 minutes. Sheridan stroked the ball between two of his defenders and, while they held a meeting to discuss who should collect it, Cole raced in and placed it defiantly past Watson. Barnsley's team spirit has been much exulted this season, but the hostile manner in which first De Zeeuw and then Eaden berated Sheridan would suggest that perfidy has found a foothold.

Within 90 seconds, Cole had scored again and Giggs made it three just a few minutes before half-time. Loyal to the theory of negating Giggs, Barnsley shepherded him across the pitch on to his right foot, but he still had the mastery to pound the ball into the net from distance. Cole completed his hat-trick seconds before the interval with another piece of exemplary finishing.

During the break, the Barnsley supporters were informed that their coaches had been moved from Elevator Road to Waters Edge, an area by the Manchester Ship Canal. The inherent sadism of locating a group of disheartened Barnsley fans in close proximity to a large expanse of water obviously escaped the announcer.

Barnsley held out for 12 minutes after half-time before Giggs scored again, followed by Scholes and, finally, Poborsky, who set his feet dancing to elude the defence and place the ball contemptuously beyond the goalkeeper.

Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, was chipper despite the scoreline and that will be a capital asset during his team's winter of discontent. It means we will be spared the habitual moping and moaning that accompanies such a tortuous ordeal. "There was nothing between the teams apart from seven goals," he said, tongue-in-cheek. "United's team is full of high-class players and they take some stopping when they work up a head of steam. They seemed to be able to score at will."

Many Barnsley fans travelled straight to Blackpool after the match, intent on a pleasurable weekend, regardless of the result. This kind of defiance will keep alive the optimism of a long hot summer during a long, cold winter.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-3-1-2): P Schmeichel — J Curtis, G Neville, G Pallister (sub: R Wallwork, 63), P Neville — D Beckham (sub: K Poborsky, 55), N Butt, P Scholes (sub: J Cruyff, 68) — R Giggs — O G Solskjaer, A Cole

BARNSLEY (4-4-2): D Watson — N Eaden, A De Zeeuw, A Krizan (sub: A Moses, 60), N Thompson (sub: J Bosancic, 68) — M Bullock, N Redfearn, D Sheridan, D Barnard — A Ward, G Hristov (sub: J Hendry, 60).

Referee: M A Riley.

Liverpool force conspirators to lose the plot

LIVERPOOL 4
DERBY COUNTY 0

By David Maddock

ROY EVANS has a new haircut. Squint a little and it makes him appear a little like Julius Caesar, which is appropriate, given that most came to bury the Liverpool manager on Saturday, not to praise him.

His crime has been to offend the Republic of Anfield by failing to win a trophy for two seasons running. The daggers have been unsheathed since August; two poor results in the past week had only added to the thickening plot.

Derby County were not to be cast in the role of Brutus, however, as Liverpool played beautifully at times to record a victory, the importance of which was illustrated by huge smiles — and celebrations to match — from both players and management.

In the lounge afterwards, the players, almost to a man, had one question: Why had the criticism they expected, and accepted, crossed the boundary into abuse? The answer lies with Evans and his tenure as manager.

Liverpool need to win the championship and Evans offered a disastrous hostage to fortune by suggesting that he must do it this season. Now everyone is watching his side's results with a macabre interest, waiting for the crash to happen.

"There will be criticism, people are looking at our situation closely and looking at me," Evans said. "We deserved criticism for the way we played in the last week and what I wanted was a response from the players — and I got it.

"We had to show we cared after the week we have had. I asked for commitment and I got it. You could go through the dictionary trying to define it, but commitment isn't about steaming in and kicking people, it is about playing to the best of your ability. It is about applying yourself in the right way and, in one respect, taking responsibility for your performance. That includes me, because this is a team effort; all of us are in it together."

The conspiritors were still able to collect evidence of Liverpool's failings this season, however, even as the players showed just how good they can be. If they could play as well as that against a Derby side that was fourth in the table, then why had they played so badly in Strasbourg?

No pride, maybe, or the manager getting his system wrong. "It didn't work, admittedly," Evans said, "but then you can have all the systems you like. Defend like we did and you will get beaten."

Evans had his Mark Anthony in the form of Steve McManaman, who continued his rich vein of form by contributing towards three goals and scoring the fourth with a towering header that had him shaking his head in disbelief, and announcing: "You can call me Bob Latchford."

After 26 minutes, McManaman began the move for the first goal, which flowed through Owen and the excellent Redknapp to allow Fowler a shooting opportunity that he executed with typical chilling efficiency from an angle on the left of the penalty area.

Then McManaman came into his own. Running at Kuzluk, he created havoc in the Derby defence before setting up first Leonhardsen and then Fowler for shots that both pondered upon before dispatching with some precision. Fowler even had the luxury of missing a penalty. "I didn't have in my mind what I was going to do when I ran up and that's unusual for me," he said.

As well as they played in patches, though, Liverpool still looked a little frayed around the edges. As Jim Smith, the Derby manager, said: "That was one of the strangest four-nils I've ever seen. It sounds stupid, but it was one of the most comfortable games I've had at Anfield."

A defence that looked solid for 70 minutes became nervous and vulnerable as soon as the visitors applied sustained pressure. Owen, for all his promise, spoilt too much possession by failing to understand what was developing around him. Fowler confessed to a frustration at the number of his runs that went unrewarded by the youngster.

But to dwell on these failings is to be petty. Let Liverpool have their moment; it is spring when we shall judge them. Evans knows that he must beware the ides of March.

LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): D James — R Jones, B T Kvarme, D Matteo, S I Bjornebye — S McManaman, J Redknapp, P Ince, O Leonhardsen — R Fowler, M Owen.

DERBY COUNTY (3-4-4): M Poom — R Kozluk, C Dailly, J Laursen — M Solis (sub: J Hunt, 70min), P Trollope, D Powell, C Powell — P Wanchope, F Baiano, D Burton (sub: D Sturridge, 70)

Referee: G Willard

Gillespie provides striking alternative

NEWCASTLE UNITED 1
BLACKBURN ROVERS 1

By Ivo Tennant

A WEEK ago at Elland Road, Newcastle United produced their worst performance since Kenny Dalglish's arrival amid a fog-bank of uncertainty over the direction of the club. Last Wednesday, their captain, Robert Lee, did not look to hide his disappointment over their European Cup Champions' League defeat in Eindhoven. Now, three days later, their pride and physical resilience perforated, they had to contend with Blackburn Rovers.

A year ago, such opposition would have been of scant concern, yet, unheralded, Blackburn have risen from the foot of the FA Carling Premiership last October to a point behind the leaders. Newcastle could not field a centre forward or, indeed, anyone who looked the part physically. Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager, was correct in his summation that they were wounded.

Already without Shearer and Asprilla, they also had to contend without Rush, whose knees, quite understandably, cannot cope with a pounding twice a week in footballing old-age. Lee was not fully fit and neither was Howey or a host of others. Dalglish was left with no option but to play Gillespie as his main striker. He, too, was limping long before the end.

Gillespie, though, managed all that was asked of him. He scored a goal — a very good one — and Newcastle did not lose. It was as much as they could hope for in the circumstances. The cautious approach that has characterised their football this season was epitomised by the continued withdrawn roles of Tomasson and Barnes.

The manner in which Gillespie controlled a long, speculative pass before sending a volley arching into the far corner won him the admiration of Flowers, the Blackburn goalkeeper — if not until long after the match had ended.

Sutton: splendid equaliser

Blackburn, too, opted for a relatively cautious formation, choosing not to deploy Duff, their talented 18-year-old winger, until the second half. The two chances that they had before they scored were blocked on the goalline, both times by Hamilton.

The equaliser was splendidly created and scored by Sutton, who was, of course, brought to Blackburn by Dalglish. Collecting the ball from Gallacher's header, he turned past Peacock, who continues to look too crude a defender for this level of the game, and shot low inside Srnicek's left-hand post for his tenth goal of the season in the Premiership.

Then there was the matter of eight bookings, six of them to for Blackburn players for niggling offences. "Had this been a European match, there probably would not have been one," Dalglish said. "The difference between referees here and abroad is unbelievable." It is not often that he is contradicted on his knowledge of the game by a fellow manager, but Hodgson did so now.

"This was a continental booking performance," he said. "Refereeing decisions are in the lap of the gods. We will contest the booking of Gallacher for asking why a free kick had not been given and of Flitcroft, who had run 45 yards after a ball and did not deserve to be booked for taking a shot at goal, but there is no point any manager discussing a referee's performance because, as soon as he opens his mouth, he is wrong."

NEWCASTLE UNITED (3-5-1-1): P Srnicek — S Watson, P Albert, D Peacock — D Hamilton (sub: R Lee, 71), D Batty, T Ketsbaia, J Barnes, J Beresford — J Tomasson — K Gillespie (sub: S Howey, 83)

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — P Valery, C Hendry, S Henchoz, G Croft — S Ripley (sub: G Flitcroft, 73), T Sherwood, B McKinlay, L Bohinen (sub: D Duff, 55) — K Gallacher, C Sutton.

Referee: J Winter

Wednesday fall on sword

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1
CRYSTAL PALACE 3

By Keith Pike

THERE are enough fast-food outlets and bars on the Hillsborough concourses to satisfy a small army, enough peripheral entertainment to put P.T. Barnham to shame, although he might have considered stilt-walkers carrying violin cases and men dressed as furry animals falling over in time to music as seriously unfunny. Inevitably, though, there is the match and, suddenly, extracting your own teeth without anaesthetic seems a reasonable option.

To lose at home to Crystal Palace is no disgrace these days — Steve Coppell's team have won more points on their travels than any other in the FA Carling Premiership and on Saturday were at the top of their game — but there are ways to lose and Sheffield Wednesday chose the least edifying. They surrendered. Wednesday played without passion, and passionless teams get relegated.

Wednesday's hopes flickered initially and were then briefly reignited. Early on, Miller made excellent saves to thwart Collins and Whittingham and, with half an hour to go, Collins's header had reduced the deficit to 2-1. But, almost immediately, Shipperley restored Palace's two-goal advantage at the Kop end, from where chants of "Pleat out" spread quickly.

There are excuses, there always are. David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, rightly pointed out that the loss of Atherton, who could be out for the season with an inoperable knee condition, has robbed the team of its natural leader and a porous defence of its protective shield, and that Booth's goals and Hyde's industry have also been erased by injuries.

Yet when a side fails to mark six-footers at corners, leaves opponents free to take target practise on the fringes of its area and is second to just about every ball, the problems go deeper than a minor spate of injuries. Wednesday have conceded 33 goals in 14 games this season, collapsed spectacularly twice and been humbled by Grimsby Town in the Coca-Cola Cup. They lack not only method, but also conviction. In short, they are deep in trouble.

With the focus firmly on Pleat's problems, the excellence of Palace's performance was overshadowed, which is a pity. Their own men on stilts, Linighan and Hreidarsson, were superbly solid at the back, the midfield hummed with purpose and the strikers struck hard. Above all, their determination and work-rate put Wednesday to shame.

Goals by Hreidarsson and Rodger had set Palace up for their first victory at Hillsborough since 1924. Next up for Wednesday? Manchester United and, three weeks later, Arsenal.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — I Nolan, J Newsome, D Walker, L Briscoe (sub: P Rudi, 32min), G Whittingham (sub: O Donaldson, 68) — J Magilton, M Pembridge, W Collins (sub: A Poric, 73), B Carbone — P di Canio.

CRYSTAL PALACE (3-4-3): K Miller — A Linighan, M Edworthy, H Hreidarsson — J Smith, A Roberts, S Rodger, D Gordon — G Ndah (sub: I Bonetti, 45), N Shipperley, B Dyer (sub: N Emblen, 86).

Referee: D Gallagher

Keeping young guns silent

COVENTRY CITY 0
EVERTON 0

By Peter Robinson

FOOTBALL, they say, is a young man's game and it's true that the likes of Giggs and Beckham, Redknapp and Fowler are its most marketable stars, but in Coventry on Saturday, the middle-aged masses had their revenge. Two of their number stood up and silenced anybody careless enough to whisper that the game belongs to the teenyboppers, the young guns or the Spice Boys.

At one end of the pitch was Steve Ogrizovic, 40 years young, big face, big hands; at the other, Neville Southall, a slip of a lad at 39, just big. Theirs was an extended rendition of Anything you can do, I can do better, a polished, word-perfect routine that was more music hall than Top of the Pops and none the worse for that. Neither is exactly bedroom poster material — it would be like having a huge picture of your dad looming over the Duvet — but they were still heroes.

There were 20 others on the field at Highfield Road, but try as they might, they simply made up an energetic supporting cast, frenetically charging from one end to the other to ensure each goalkeeper got his turn in the spotlight. Ferguson was menacing, Oster elusive, Stuart sharp and sensible: Huckerby led the Coventry company, pacy and direct, ably supported by Hall and Haworth. None could score. Although Ferguson and Oster struck woodwork, Shaw cleared off the line and Cadamarteri was denied a justifiable penalty, there was usually an outstretched Ogrizovic hand or the massive presence of Southall in the way.

"Oggy was magnificent," Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, said afterwards, echoing general praise. "He just keeps going on and on, as Nev does. Neville was the best in the world and he is still a top-class goalkeeper. They both are." Nobody asked Kendall or Gordon Strachan, his opposite number, how either could be replaced, it seemed a silly question. Both will surely be fixtures for as long as they want.

Kendall was a satisfied man and he had every right to be. Ten days earlier, Everton had reached their nadir at Coventry, a 4-1 defeat in the Coca-Cola Cup sparking a confrontation between manager and players on the pitch. This was more like it, a competitive display that perhaps deserved three points, not one, with Ferguson earning acclaim from friend and foe for his marauding performance, although a goal, made or scored, would have been nice.

That, though, would have meant beating Ogrizovic and that proved beyond him, fine saves stopping, in particular, a first-half shot and a second-half header. Southall's best was saved for last, blocking Johansen late on, but by then the wonder was not that the save was made, but that anybody was still fool enough to believe that it wouldn't be.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — R Nilsson, R Shaw, P Williams, D Burrows — J Salako (sub: M Johansen, 74), T Soltvedt, G McAllister, M Hall — S Haworth, D Huckerby.

EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — E Barrett, D Watson, C Short, A Hinchcliffe — G Stuart, A Williamson, G Speed, J Oster — D Cadamarteri (sub: N Barmby, 70), D Ferguson.

Referee: S Lodge.

Hirst proves to be a bargain buy

SOUTHAMPTON 3
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 2

By Nick Szczepanik

IT IS not only fantasy football that requires a suspension of disbelief: reality can also be hard to take. On Saturday, Gerry Francis, the Tottenham Hotspur manager, found it difficult to accept his team had lost a match that he felt they had dominated and in which they led twice — yet it is scarcely more credible that a proven goalscorer of England pedigree, in the prime years of his career, can be transferred between two FA Carling Premiership clubs for just £2 million.

David Hirst, 29, whose two left-footed strikes in the final half-hour settled this match, his home debut, in Southampton's favour, was signed a little over a week ago from Sheffield Wednesday for the sort of knockdown price usually associated with damaged goods. Indeed, he has spent long stretches of recent seasons on the sidelines with a series of injuries.

"I had a thorough medical — maybe too thorough really, but that's another story — and obviously the gaffer did his homework and thought the gamble was worth taking," Hirst said. "When somebody came along and spent the money that they did, I was only too delighted to try and repay that."

David Jones, the Southampton manager, said: "He's a quality player. With what's going on in the game at the moment, I felt it was two million well spent."

Hirst scored his first goal after 66 minutes, hitting a shot on the turn across Ian Walker and in off the base of the far post. Twelve minutes later, Le Tissier and Davies moved the ball in from the left and Hirst was there again.

The victory took Southampton above Barnsley and Sheffield Wednesday, Hirst's previous clubs and, by coincidence, the next two visitors to The Dell. He regards both with great affection and feels no bitterness about either his failure to command a first-team place at Hillsborough, or about the injuries that blighted his career. "I don't even want to talk about injuries," he said. "I don't look at the past. I thought, as Wednesday did, that after 11, 12 years, the change of scenery might benefit me and it certainly has."

Dominguez: long-range strike

Hirst nearly grabbed a late third, but that would have been too tough on Tottenham, who had taken the lead late in the first half with a 25-yard beauty from José Dominguez. Lundekvam began and ended the move that led to Southampton's equaliser, eight minutes after the break, but the Norway defender's shot was going well wide until Campbell's deflection sent it trundling past Walker and over the line.

Tottenham retook the lead on 64 minutes through Ginola, cutting in from the left for once after playing most of the match in a central midfield role.

At that point, Francis was not the only one who expected his team to win, but Hirst hit back almost immediately. An obviously unfit Anderton was sent on, to little effect, before Hirst's winner.

"We've got to be more professional, learn to concentrate for 90 minutes," Francis said. "We were in total control, scored two great goals and I can't think of any stage when I thought we were going to lose. I suppose that's what makes football such a notoriously funny game." His smile, though, was of disbelief, not amusement.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-3-1-2): P Jones — J Dodd, K Monkou, C Lundekvam, F Benali (sub: S Charlton, 88min) — C Palmer, K Richardson, M Oakley (sub: A Williams, 52) — M Le Tissier (sub: R Slater, 87) — D Hirst, K Davies.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S Carr, R Vega, S Campbell, J Edinburgh (sub: C Calderwood 72; sub: N Fenn, 86) — R Fox (sub: D Anderton, 78), D Ginola, A Sinton, D Howells — J Dominguez, C Armstrong

Referee: N Barry.

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Frenchman dismissed for shoving referee as draw adds to Wenger's problems

Petit pushes Arsenal's panic button

ARSENAL 0
ASTON VILLA 0

By Oliver Holt
football correspondent

ARSENE WENGER, the Arsenal manager, complained on Saturday that referees were booking Dennis Bergkamp because they wanted his name as a trophy. Yesterday, he had to watch as Paul Durkin added a few more trinkets to his own personal collection and dealt Arsenal's hopes of wresting the FA Carling Premiership crown from Manchester United a double blow in the process.

Fresh from incurring six bookings in their previous league game, at Crystal Palace last Saturday, the Arsenal disciplinary problems plumbed new depths during their draw with Aston Villa at Highbury yesterday afternoon when Emmanuel Petit, their French midfield player, was sent off for shoving the referee in the chest with both hands seven minutes from the final whistle.

The dismissal of Petit not only extinguished any lingering hopes that Arsenal might have had of winning the match and so regaining the lead of the Premiership from United, it meant that both he and Bergkamp, arguably Arsenal's two most influential players this season, will now miss their home game with Alex Ferguson's side on November 9.

Durkin also booked David Seaman, Patrick Vieira and Steve Bould as Arsenal once more lapsed into a spate of ill-disciplined challenges and excessive reactions. Petit's action was more a light push than anything of violent intent, but it seemed indicative of the bad-tempered reactions that are landing the North London club's players in trouble consistently. They have now attracted 34 bookings and two sendings-off this season and are top of the foul play league.

There is bound to be a certain sympathy for Wenger when he complains about the treatment dished out to Bergkamp, but as the problem shows every sign of escalating rather than diminishing, it appears that something radical needs to be done if it is not to blight Arsenal's season and ruin their challenge to United, who now have a one-point lead over them.

Ehiogu, the grounded Villa defender, stretches out a leg in an attempt to halt the progress of Ian Wright at Highbury yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

"Petit did not run to the referee to push him," Wenger said. "He maybe wanted to tell the referee there was an earlier handball. I don't think he wanted to push the referee to be agressive. It was my impression that he was just holding out his hands to stop them colliding. I think we will appeal about it because it happens to us at a difficult moment when we have big games coming up.

"If we can save Petit we will try. Tactically, we were very disciplined and even in our discipline with the referee I did not think we complained more than Aston Villa. Perhaps it is because we are Arsenal."

Despite all that was to come, Arsenal had begun the brighter, so dominant in the first half that it seemed Seaman would be allowed to bask unhindered in the glory of surpassing the club goalkeeping appearance record of 352 games, held by Jack Kelsey. For long periods, it seemed that it was just a matter of time until Arsenal went ahead.

It looked as though they had taken the lead in the 14th minute, but what appeared to be a Vieira header from Petit's corner was a flick with his left forearm that inadvertently flattened Bosnich. Nine minutes later, Vieira had a more legitimate opportunity when he met another Petit corner, but glanced his header so slightly that it trickled into touch off the corner flag.

After 29 minutes, Vieira went close again when he volleyed Bergkamp's free kick past Bosnich but on to the crossbar. Gradually, though, Arsenal became sapped of their creativity and, with Bergkamp and Wright misfiring in attack on the Dutchman's last outing before his ban begins, Villa began to creep back into the game.

Ten minutes before half-time, Joachim, playing alongside Yorke in place of the suspended Collymore, stole on to a long ball from Alan Wright, forced his way in front of Bould and struck a fierce shot that Seaman clawed away with his trailing hand.

In the second half, after Southgate had been booked for holding Bergkamp, Petit struck a stinging shot from 30 yards that Bosnich needed two attempts to catch, then had a left-foot free kick comfortably saved by the goalkeeper.

A minute later, though, Villa fashioned the best chance of the match. Yorke, robust throughout, took a chip on his chest with his back to goal, turned sweetly and danced his way in front of Bould. He advanced on Seaman and went for power rather than placement; the England goalkeeper managed to beat his shot out with his hands.

Arsenal missed their last chance to take the three points when a Petit corner fifteen minutes from the end fell to the unmarked Anelka, on as a substitute for the ineffectual Boa Morte, but the French prodigy sliced his volley woefully wide. In the dying seconds, Alan Wright's shot took a wicked deflection but went just wide of Seaman's right-hand post.

Up in one of the boxes, sponsored apparently by Subbuteo, Paul Gascoigne, a target for Villa, sat and watched as the game spiralled out of control. If any match could convince him that his decision to stay in Scotland was right, it was this one.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, S Bould, A Adams, N Winterburn — R Parlour (sub: D Platt, 65min), P Vieira, E Petit, L Boa Morte (sub: N Anelka, 72) — I Wright, D Bergkamp
ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — R Scimeca, G Southgate, U Ehiogu — G Charles, M Draper, S Grayson, F Nelson, A Wright — J Joachim, D Yorke
Referee: P Durkin.

Gascoigne at Villa game but insists he is staying at Rangers

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

PAUL GASCOIGNE yesterday scotched rumours that he is set to join Aston Villa — even though he was attending their match with Arsenal at Highbury.

The England midfield player has been linked with a £4 million move to Villa Park and Brian Little has confirmed that he may be interested in signing the Rangers star if he decides to leave Ibrox, but Gascoigne said he had taken his son to the Premiership game merely as a birthday treat.

"I told Walter Smith [the Rangers manager]: 'You're not going to believe this but I'd promised to bring him to Arsenal.' I said: 'I'm not going to take him because of everything.' But he said: 'Go along.' I just thank God I've got an understanding manager."

Gascoigne said he had signed a three-year contract with Rangers: "I'm very happy where I am. The supporters, especially the last couple of games, have been unbelievable. The couple of games at the start of the season weren't going too well, but I got a couple of rollockings from the gaffer and things are going pretty well now."

Gascoigne also dismissed reports that Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, wants him to return south to play. "Glenn has never said that to me," Gascoigne said. "I just feel sorry for our manager and the chairman because every time I play for England, there's speculation."

Michael Evans, the forward who signed for West Bromwich Albion from Southampton for £750,000 in midweek, will miss Ireland's vital first leg World Cup play-off game against Belgium at Lansdowne Road on Wednesday. Evans suffered a double fracture of his cheekbone in an accidental clash with Jason McAteer, of Liverpool, during a training session in Dublin yesterday.

Evans, 24, made his debut for Ireland as an 85th-minute substitute for Tony Cascarino in the 1-1 draw with Romania in the final group eight qualifying match a fortnight ago. He will be out of football for at least four weeks.

"I am disappointed for the lad," Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, said. Evans will return to Birmingham today to start treatment.

South Korea claimed their fourth successive spot in the World Cup finals after Japan and the United Arab Emirates drew their qualifying match 1-1 in Tokyo. The result meant neither could overtake South Korea at the top of Asian group B.

LEICESTER CITY v
WEST HAM UNITED
Today (8.0)

David Powell

WHAT else could Martin O'Neill say but "records are there to be broken?" After nine successive defeats by West Ham United and a run of losses in their past four matches, the Leicester City manager is listening out for a deafening sound of breakage. It was a victory at Filbert Street last April which effectively secured West Ham's FA Carling Premiership status.

West Ham may welcome back Andy Impey, after injuring a toe, and recall Ludek Miklosko in goal. Miklosko has been out with a knee injury. On a possible return for Ian Pearce, Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, said: "Wait and see."

Tony Cottee, after two spells with West Ham, expects to be named as a substitute for Leicester. Have West Ham, for their part, found a new Cottee (of a sort) in John Hartson, who has already scored 12 goals this season?

"People have been saying they have lacked a goalscorer since me and Frankie [McAvennie] in our heyday back in 1986, so hopefully the club have found an answer," Cottee, still a West Ham devotee, said.

Leicester, out of the Coca-Cola Cup and the Uefa Cup, need a win to stabilise their top-six league position. Garry Parker and Ian Marshall face fitness tests.

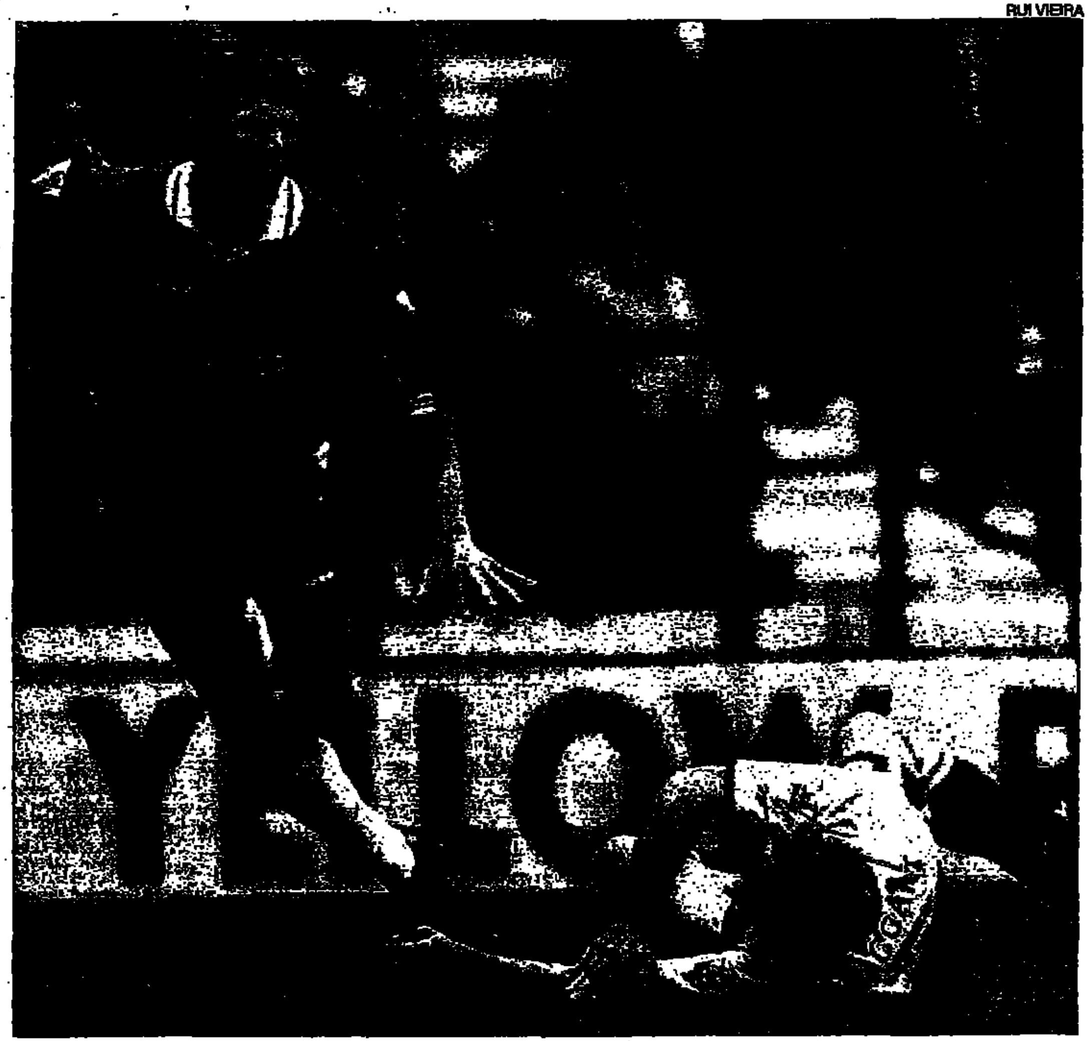
LEICESTER CITY (possible 3-5-2): P Arphexad — S Prior, M Elliott, P Kaamark — R Savage, S Campbell, N Lennon, M Izzet, S Guppy — E Heskey, S Claridge.
WEST HAM UNITED (possible 3-4-1-2): C Forrest — S Potts, R Ferdinand, D Unsworth — F Lampard, S Lomas, J Moncur, K Rowland — E Berkovic — J Hartson, I Dowie
TELEVISION: Today: Live on Sky Sports 1, 8.0pm
PREDICTION: Leicester to end their West Ham hoodoo

Holdsworth keeps Chelsea in cold

BOLTON WANDERERS 1
CHELSEA 0

By David Maddock

RUI VIEIRA



Flo, the Chelsea forward, grimaces in pain after a challenge from Taggart, of Bolton

CHELSEA have just returned from a town in the Arctic Circle that is cast in permanent darkness for the whole winter. They will be hoping, after this defeat, that it is a condition they have not brought back with them.

These are worrying times for Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea player-manager. Bolton Wanderers eventually achieved victory with a flourish, but not before the visiting side had spurned enough chances to have won comfortably.

"We beat ourselves," Gullit said. "The players are very disappointed with themselves because they threw away three points. It was incredible, how many chances did we need? Miss as many as we did and you get punished and that's what happened, just as it did at Coventry on the opening day of the season."

Chelsea, admittedly, had men injured, suspended and on international duty, but the backbone of their side was intact and, if it is not to be a long, dark winter, they will have respond better to such adversity and display far more conviction on their travels.

The home side have plenty of it. They played some delightful football, especially in the second half, and were — ultimately — worthy of the win. After going ahead, they had three or four more presentable opportunities to secure the points.

In the first half, Chelsea had four glorious chances to exploit an obvious apprehension in a home team entering the match still waiting for their first league win at their new ground. Nerves were frayed and Chelsea should have done more to rip them to shreds.

The chief culprit was Dan Petrescu, an exciting figure as he dashed down the right flank but a forlorn one when he ventured into the penalty area. The Romanian started as creator as, within the space of two minutes on the half-hour, he set up first Hughes and then Nicholls. Hughes did well with a first-time shot from 12 yards, but was thwarted by the excellent Branagan in the Bolton goal, who stretched elastically to hold the forward's effort. Nicholls should have done better, as Petrescu sent him scurrying into the penalty area, but Branagan saved bravely at his feet.

Hughes was halted again and worse was to follow a minute before the interval, with Petrescu the culprit. Nicholls ran free down the right and crossed to give the midfield man an easy chance, but he was too casual, his shot lacking urgency, and Branagan made another save.

Nicholls, relishing a free role behind the front two, repeated the trick ten minutes after the break, but, with only the goalkeeper to beat, Petrescu chipped over the stranded figure and over the bar.

You cannot miss so many opportunities and hope to remain undamaged and Bolton were too vibrant to allow such leniency. Beardsley, on the right, was a constant threat with his incisive passing and both Blake and Holdsworth offered fluid targets up front.

They were both so willing in their running and the Chelsea defence finally broke open after being stretched uncomfortably. Sellars and Fish should have scored in the first half and Holdsworth and Beardsley had shots saved from close range in the second.

In the end it was, fittingly, Holdsworth who scored the winning goal. He has not been too well received by the Bolton supporters, but his work-rate was impressive and his running off the ball extremely intelligent.

It was Beardsley who created the goal with a burst from deep into the penalty area, the ball falling for Sellars on the left edge, who crossed back into the six-yard area for Holdsworth to sweep home a firm, first-time effort.

Chelsea ran out of steam in the closing stages as their efforts in the snow of Tromso caught up with them. If they are not to slide out of contention for the championship, they will have to show far more conviction in front of goal.

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — G Bergsson, M Fish, G Taggart, J Phillips — P Beardsley (sub: J Pollock, 83min), P Frandsen, A Thompson, S Sellers — N Blake, D Holdsworth.
CHELSEA (4-3-1-2): E de Goey — F Sinclair, F Leboeuf, A Myers, S Clarke — D Petrescu, E Newton, C Babayaro — M Nicholls (sub: R Gullit, 78) — T A Flo, M Hughes.
Referee: P Jones.

Graham dives into penalty dispute

WIMBLEDON 1
LEEDS UNITED 0

By Brian Glanville

"I DON'T think it was the best of games, frankly," Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, admitted. Indeed, it was not. How tempting to revive Gary Lineker's old joke about a previous meeting between these clubs: "You'd have been better off watching it on Ceefax."

It started well enough, with Leeds United putting some bright, short-passing moves together — Rod Wallace darted and probed up front in his habitual way; Bruno Ribeiro, the stocky little Portuguese, was active and intelligent in midfield; Lee Bowyer, standing in for Gary Kelly, was active on the right — but the game was doomed to fall steeply away and to be decided by a controversial penalty after 28 minutes.

Kinnear, predictably, thought the award a fair one — and, for Wimbledon, a rare one. He added that he did not think George Graham, the Leeds manager, would share his view. Graham did not.

Michael Hughes, overall the best and most effective player on the field, whether operating on either wing or in the centre of midfield, came dribbling boldly in from the left, survived one attempted tackle and was brought down in the box by David Hopkin.

Well, that was what it looked like from the stand and that was what it looked like to Kinnear. "Hopkin took his legs down," he said. "Hughsie said he trapped his leg at the back. I thought the referee was in a perfect position to see it, because he was only four or five yards away."

Graham accused Hughes of diving, which he said had become the fashion here over the past couple of years. On the Continent, it was punished. Here, for some reason, it was not.

"I don't blame the boy," he said, a little unconvincingly. "He saw an opportunity and took it. I didn't think we'd have as much possession as that without scoring. It all hinged on the penalty decision. I think the player dived and the referee fell for it."

Neil Ardley, playing only because Ceri Hughes was unwell, put the penalty away without trouble.

Six minutes later, Ribeiro's pass sent the Australian, Harry Kewell, away on a spirited run, which he finished by releasing Hopkin. But the Leeds captain's shot, though it beat Neil Sullivan, rebounded from the post.

Wimbledon, after 12 minutes, were the first to strike. Vinnie Jones got in a near-post header to Ardley's right-wing corner, but Martyn took it high and well. At the other end, when Hopkin served Wallace, Jones was there to divert the shot over the bar.

The Leeds centre back, Wetherall, as Kinnear said, was always a danger at set-pieces. He was allowed to get his head to Ribeiro's free kick from the left, only to steer it wide — and to be knocked out in the subsequent collision.

The second half provided few consolations, though there were a couple of powerful shots by Hughes, with both of which Martin dealt.

Hughes, Kinnear said, gives a different dimension. "He's been on fire since he joined us. He's got wonderful balance, quick feet, he's got a terrific shot on him. Obviously, the three midfield players who are in have to work extremely hard when we lose the ball. We give Michael a bit of a luxury role."

Leeds, no longer dangerous on the wings as once they were, had a somewhat lightweight pair in Wallace and Kewell, though Kinnear was concerned that they could break away "and sting you". Kewell had a chance to sting in the second half when a ball rebounded to him, but his shot went straight at Sullivan. So Leeds did not gain the "something" that Graham legitimately thought they deserved.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): N Sullivan — D Jupp, D Blackwell, C Perry, B Thatcher — M Hughes, R Earle, V Jones, N Ardley — E Ekoku, C Cort (sub: M Gayle, 79min).
LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): N Martyn — G Halle (sub: A Maybury, 58), L Radebe, D Wetherall, D Robertson — L Bowyer, D Hopkin (sub: D Lilley, 78), A-I Haaland, B Ribeiro — H Kewell, R Wallace.
Referee: G Barber.

هكذا من الإصل

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

COVENTRY (0) 0 EVERTON (0) 0
18,760

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, G Shaw, D Burrows, A Williams, D Huckerby, G McAllister, J Salako (sub: M Johansen, 75min), T Soltvedt, S Haworth, M Hall, R Nilsson

Booked: Huckerby

Everton: N Southall, E Barrett, A Hinchcliffe, D Watson, C Short, A Williamson, G Speed, J Oster, G Stuart, D Ferguson, D Cadamarteri (sub: N Barmby, 70min)

Booked: Williamson, Ferguson, Barrett.

Referee: S J Lodge

LIVERPOOL (1) 4 DERBY (0) 0
Fowler 27, 84
Leonhardsen 65
McManaman 88
38,017

Liverpool: D James, R Jones, B Kvarme, S McManaman, O Leonhardsen, R Fowler, J Redknapp, P Ince, M Owen, D Matteo, S Bjornebye.

Booked: Leonhardsen, Fowler.

Derby County: M Poom, C Powell, D Powell, P Wanchope, P Trollope, J Laursen, C Dailly, M Solis (sub: J Hunt, 70min), D Burton (sub: D Sturridge, 70min), R Kozluk, F Baiano

Booked: C Powell

Referee: G S Willard.

MAN UTD (4) 7 BARNSLEY (0) 0
Cole 17, 19, 45
Giggs 43, 56
Scholes 59
Poborsky 80
55,142

Manchester United: P Schmeichel, G Neville, G Pallister (sub: R Wallwork, 63min), D Beckham (sub: K Poborsky, 55min), N Butt, A Cole, R Giggs, P Neville, P Scholes (sub: J Cruyff, 69min), O Solskjaer, J Curtis

Barnsley: D Watson, N Eaden, D Sheridan, A De Zeeuw, N Redfearn, N Thompson (sub: J Bosancic, 69min), T Bullock, G Hristov (sub: J Hendrie, 58min), A Krizan (sub: A Moses, 58min), D Barnard, A Ward.

Referee: M A Riley

NEWCASTLE (1) 1 BLACKBURN (0) 1
Gillespie 27
Sutton 57
36,716

Newcastle United: P Srnicek, S Watson, D Peacock, P Albert, J Beresford, D Batty, D Hamilton (sub: R Lee, 69min), J Barnes, T Ketsbaia, K Gillespie (sub: S Howey, 82min), J Tomasson

Booked: Peacock, Ketsbaia

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, T Sherwood, C Hendry, S Ripley (sub: G Flitcroft, 72min), K Gallacher, C Sutton, L Bohinen (sub: D Duff, 54min), B McKinlay, G Croft, P Valery, S Henchoz

Booked: Gallacher, Hendry, McKinlay, Flitcroft, Valery, Henchoz.

Referee: J T Winter.

SHEFF WED (0) 1 C PALACE (1) 3
Collins 57
Hreidarsson 27
Rodger 52
Shipperley 60
22,072

Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, I Nolan, M Pembridge, J Newsome, D Walker, G Whittingham (sub: O Donaldson, 68min), B Carbone, P Di Canio, L Briscoe (sub: P Rudi, 31min), W Collins (sub: A Pearce, 73min), J Magilton.

Crystal Palace: K Miller, M Edworthy, D Gordon, D Roberts, A Linighan, N Shipperley, B Dyer (sub: N Emblen, 87min), S Rodger, J Smith, G Ndah (sub: I Bonetti, 46min), H Hreidarsson.

Referee: D J Gallagher

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 3 TOTTENHAM (1) 2
Vega 54 (og)
Hirst 67, 80
Dominguez 42
Ginola 65
15,255

Southampton: P Jones, J Dodd, F Benali (sub: S Charlton, 68min), C Palmer, K Monkou, C Lundekvam, M Le Tissier (sub: R Slater, 81min), M Oakley (sub: A Williams, 52min), D Hirst, K Davies, K Richardson.

Booked: Palmer, Slater

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, J Edinburgh (sub: C Calderwood, 73min) (sub: N Fenn, 86min), S Carr, R Vega, S Campbell, D Howells, R Fox (sub: D Anderton, 73min), C Armstrong, D Ginola, J Dominguez, A Sinton.

Booked: Vega, Campbell, Dominguez

Referee: N S Barry

WIMBLEDON (1) 1 LEEDS (0) 0
Ardley 29 (pen)
15,718

Wimbledon: N Sullivan, V Jones, D Blackwell, B Thatcher, R Earle, E Ekoku, C Perry, C Hughes, N Ardley, D Jupp, C Cort (sub: M Gayle, 80min)

Booked: Hughes

Leeds United: N Martyn, D Robertson, A-I Haaland, L Radebe, D Wetherall, R Wallace, B Ribeiro, L Bowyer, D Hopkin (sub: D Lilley, 79min), G Halle (sub: A Maybury, 58min), H Kewell

Booked: Wetherall, Bowyer

Referee: G P Barber.

Yesterday

ARSENAL (0) 0 A VILLA (0) 0
38,051

Sent off: E Petit (Arsenal) 83

Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winterburn, P Vieira, S Bould, A Adams, I Wright, D Bergkamp, R Parlour (sub: D Platt, 67min), E Petit, L Boa Morte (sub: N Anelka, 72min)

Booked: Vieira, Bould, Seaman.

Aston Villa: M Bosnich, G Charles, G Southgate, U Ehiogu, M Draper, D Yorke, J Joachim, A Wright, F Nelson, S Grayson, R Scimeca.

Booked: Southgate

Referee: P A Durkin.

BOLTON (0) 1 CHELSEA (0) 0
Holdsworth 72
24,080

Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan, P Frandsen, G Taggart, S Sellars, A Thompson, G Bergsson, P Beardsley (sub: J Pollock, 82min), N Blake, J Phillips, M Fish, D Holdsworth.

Booked: Taggart.

Chelsea: E De Goey, D Petrescu, C Babayaro, F Leboeuf, S Clarke, M Hughes, A Myers, T A Flo, F Sinclair, M Nicholls (sub: R Gullit, 76min), E Newton.

Booked: Babayaro

Referee: P Jones.

GOALSCORERS

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: 12: J Hartson (West Ham). 11: D Bergkamp (Arsenal); C Sutton (Blackburn). 9: I Wright (Arsenal); F Baiano (Derby). 7: B Carbone (Sheff Wed); K Gallacher (Blackburn); R Wallace (Leeds); G Vialli (Chelsea); D Wanchope (Derby)

FRENCH LEAGUE: Paris SG 2 Lens 0; Metz 0 Montpellier 1; Bastia 1 Marseille 1; Lyon 0 Toulouse 0; Chateauroux 2 Guingamp 2; Rennes 3 Strasbourg 1; Cannes 1 Le Havre 1

Leading positions:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Paris SG	13	9	3	1	28	10	30
Metz	13	8	2	3	20	11	26
Bordeaux	12	8	2	2	19	13	26
Marseille	13	7	3	3	17	10	24
Lens	13	6	3	4	15	12	21
Monaco	12	6	2	4	16	12	20
Bastia	13	5	4	4	16	12	19
Toulouse	13	5	4	4	11	14	19
Auxerre	12	6	0	6	23	18	18
Montpellier	13	4	5	4	13	14	17
Lyon	13	5	1	7	16	18	16
Guingamp	13	4	3	6	14	18	15

GERMAN LEAGUE: VfL Wolfsburg 2 Arminia Bielefeld 0; Borussia Dortmund 3 Hansa Rostock 2; Hertha Berlin 3 Karlsruhe SC 1; Bayern Munich 2 Werder Bremen 0; Hamburg SV 1 TSV 1860 Munich 2; Borussia Mönchengladbach 2 Bayer Leverkusen 2; Kaiserslautern 1 MSV Duisburg 0; Schalke 04 2 VfL Bochum 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kaiserslautern	12	9	2	1	25	12	29
Bayern Munich	12	7	4	1	27	13	25
Schalke 04	12	6	3	3	14	12	21
Hansa Rostock	12	6	2	4	19	13	20
VfB Stuttgart	11	5	3	3	24	14	18
VfL Wolfsburg	12	5	2	5	16	18	17
MSV Duisburg	12	5	2	5	11	13	17
Bayer Leverkusen	12	4	4	4	21	17	16
Hamburg SV	12	4	4	4	18	19	16
Arminia Bielefeld	12	5	0	7	16	17	15
1860 Munich	11	4	3	4	16	20	15
Werder Bremen	12	4	3	5	14	18	15
Bor M'gladbach	12	3	5	4	20	20	14
Bor Dortmund	12	3	4	5	18	17	13
SC Karlsruhe	11	3	3	5	18	25	12
VfL Bochum	12	3	2	7	16	24	11
Cologne	11	3	1	7	14	23	10
Hertha Berlin	12	2	3	7	11	23	9

SPANISH LEAGUE: Deportivo Coruna 1 Celta Vigo 1; Betis 1 Compostela 0; Salamanca 1 Zaragoza 2; Real Sociedad 2 Merida 1; Valencia 1 Oviedo 1; Sporting de Gijon 1 Athletic de Bilbao 2; Barcelona 2 Racing de Santander 0

Leading positions:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	8	7	1	0	20	6	22
Real Madrid	7	5	2	0	12	1	17
Real Sociedad	8	5	1	2	14	6	16
Celta Vigo	8	4	3	1	15	9	15
Atlético Madrid	7	4	2	1	20	6	14
Mallorca	7	4	2	1	16	8	14
Español	7	3	4	0	12	4	13
Real Betis	8	3	3	2	12	14	12
Athletic Bilbao	8	2	5	1	8	8	11
Racing Santander	8	3	1	4	10	12	10
Oviedo	8	2	4	2	10	13	10
Zaragoza	8	2	4	2	14	17	10
Deportivo Coruna	8	1	5	2	9	9	8
Tenerife	7	2	2	3	9	13	8
Compostela	8	1	4	3	12	13	7
Valencia	8	1	2	5	7	12	5

DUTCH LEAGUE: FC Utrecht 2 Nijmegen 4; Sparta Rotterdam 1 FC Groningen 1; RKC Waalwijk 1 FC Volendam 1; FC Twente Enschede 1 Roda JC Kerkrade 2; Vitesse Arnhem 1 Fortuna Sittard 0; PSV Eindhoven 5 MVV Maastricht 0; Graafschap Doetinchem 1 Heerenveen 2.

WORLD CUP: Asian Zone: Group A: Kuwait 0 Qatar 1 (in Kuwait City); Saudi Arabia 1 Iran 0 (in Ryadh)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Iran	6	3	2	1	13	6	11
Saudi Arabia	6	3	1	2	6	5	10
Kuwait	6	2	1	3	7	7	7
China	5	2	1	2	7	10	7
Qatar	5	1	1	3	2	7	4

Group B: Japan 1 United Arab Emirates 1 (in Tokyo); Uzbekistan 4 Kazakhstan 0 (in Tashkent).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Korea	6	5	1	0	16	4	16
UAE	6	2	2	2	8	9	8
Japan	6	1	4	1	10	8	7
Kazakhstan	7	1	3	3	6	14	6
Uzbekistan	7	1	2	4	13	18	5

CARLING F.A. PREMIERSHIP

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Man Utd	12	5	1	0	17	3	2	3	1	6	3	25	+17
2 Arsenal	12	4	2	0	15	1	2	4	0	12	9	24	+17
3 Blackburn	12	3	2	1	13	7	3	3	0	9	3	23	+12
4 Chelsea	11	3	0	1	8	5	3	1	3	17	10	19	+10
5 Liverpool	11	4	0	1	14	5	1	3	2	6	7	18	+8
6 Leicester	11	2	3	1	9	6	3	0	2	5	3	18	+5
7 Derby	11	3	2	0	11	4	2	0	4	8	11	17	+4
8 Leeds	12	2	1	3	6	7	3	1	2	9	6	17	+2
9 Wimbledon	12	2	2	3	7	7	2	2	1	7	6	16	+1
10 Newcastle	9	4	1	1	7	5	1	0	2	2	5	16	-1
11 West Ham	11	4	0	1	10	4	1	1	4	5	13	16	-2
12 C Palace	12	0	2	3	3	8	4	1	2	9	6	15	-2
13 A Villa	12	2	1	2	6	9	2	1	4	6	8	14	-5
14 Tottenham	12	3	2	1	7	6	0	2	4	4	10	13	-5
15 Coventry	12	2	5	0	8	6	0	2	3	0	7	13	-5
16 Everton	11	3	1	2	11	9	0	2	3	2	7	12	-3
17 Bolton	11	1	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	7	13	11	-6
18 Southmptn	12	3	1	3	9	9	0	0	5	2	11	10	-9
19 Sheff Wed	12	2	1	3	8	12	0	2	4	9	17	9	-12
20 Barnsley	12	2	0	4	5	14	1	0	5	4	21	9	-26

Andreas Möller, centre, scores for Borussia Dortmund against Rostock in their German League match. Dortmund won 3-2. Photograph: Jürgen Schwartz

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 OXFORD UTD (0) 0
16,352

BRADFORD (0) 1 CREWE (0) 0
Edinho 74
15,333

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 PORTSMITH (1) 1
Dalton 80
Igoe 37
8,985

IPSWICH (0) 2 BURY (0) 0
Tanner 80 (pen)
Dozzell 86
10,478
Sent off: I Hughes (Bury) 79, A Gray (Bury) 88

MIDDLESBRO (1) 2 PORT VALE (0) 1
Merson 11 (pen), 68 (pen)
Foyle 90
30,096

STOCKPORT (1) 1 WOLVRHMPTN (0) 0
Cook 20
9,804

STOKE (0) 1 SUNDERLAND (1) 2
Stewart 81
Clark 40, 70
14,587

SWINDON (0) 1 NORWICH (0) 0
Hay 84
9,256

TRANMERE (1) 2 CHARLTON (0) 2
Branch 13
Jones 66
Kinsella 57
Leaburn 59
5,911

WEST BROM (1) 2 SHEFF UTD (0) 0
Hunt 7
Hughes 87
17,311

Yesterday

QPR (2) 2 MAN CITY (0) 0
Ready 13
Peacock 33 (pen)
14,451

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Reading 3 Nottingham Forest 3

SECOND DIVISION

BRISTOL R (0) 0 BLACKPOOL (1) 3
6,183
Bonner 30
Clarkson 46
Preece 53

BURNLEY (1) 2 BOURNEMTH (0) 2
Waddle 45
Creaney 65
Howe 58
Vincent 68
9,501

CHESTRFLD (0) 1 WYCOMBE (0) 0
Holland 48
4,119
Sent off: M Taylor (Wycombe) 16

FULHAM (1) 1 NORTHMPTN (0) 1
Peschisolido 43
Gayle 50
9,848

GILLINGHAM (1) 2 PLYMOUTH (1) 1
Akinbiyi 32
Fortune-West 87
Jean 4
6,679
Sent off: P Wilson (Plymouth) 78

GRIMSBY (0) 0 WATFORD (1) 1
5,659
Rosenthal 1

LUTON (1) 2 BRENTFORD (0) 0
Alexander 20
Thorpe 59
5,972

MILLWALL (0) 1 WIGAN (0) 1
Savry 90
Jones 86
7,956

PRESTON (0) 0 WREXHAM (0) 1
9,038
Chalk 50

SOUTHEND (1) 1 OLDHAM (1) 1
Coulbault 13
Barlow 34
3,535
Sent off: S Redmond (Oldham) 41

WALSALL (0) 0 BRISTOL CITY (0) 0
4,618

YORK (1) 4 CARLISLE (2) 3
Rowe 14
Stephenson 32, 85
Bushell 27
Pounewatchy 25
Barr 35
McAlindon 78
3,703
Sent off: A Couzens (Carlisle) 66

THIRD DIVISION

CARDIFF (0) 1 HARTLPOOL (1) 1
Crowe 72
Baker 21
3,383

CHESTER (0) 1 MACCLSFLD (0) 1
Priest 78
Landon 51
3,245

EXETER (1) 2 SCUNTHRPE (1) 3
Williams 25, 55
Walsh 43
Hope 47
D Acna 82
4,552

HULL (0) 0 BRIGHTON (0) 0
5,696

L ORIENT (0) 0 COLCHESTER (1) 2
4,592
Adcock 4
Forbes 77

LINCOLN (3) 3 DARLINGTON (0) 1
Thorpe 2, 44
Whitney 33
Roberts 82
3,384

MANSFIELD (1) 1 BARNET (1) 2
Hackett 20
McGleish 18
Wilson 60 (pen)
2,240

NOTTS CO (0) 1 CAMBRIDGE U (0) 0
Jones 49
4,279

PETERBORO (1) 2 TORQUAY (0) 0
Carruthers 38
Quinn 64
6,325

ROCHDALE (0) 0 ROTHERHAM (1) 1
2,267
Garner 5

SHRWSBURY (0) 0 SCARBORO (0) 1
2,335
Bennett 51

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Doncaster 0 Swansea 3

GOALSCORERS

FIRST DIVISION: 12: P Van Hooijdonk (Nottm Forest) 11: C Hay (Swindon), B Angell (Stockport) 9: C Mendonca (Charlton), D Kelly (Tranmere) 8: J Fjortoft (Sheff Utd) A Hunt (West Brom), Jones (Tranmere), S Bull (Wolverhampton), P Thorne (Stoke) 7: Edinho (Bradford) A Armstrong (Stockport); C Asaba (Reading); P Devlin (Birmingham) D Johnson (Bury), J Beauchamp (Oxford Utd) 6: J Aloisi (Portsmouth); K Campbell (Nottm Forest); N Jemson (Oxford Utd).

SECOND DIVISION: 11: R Bolt (Walsall) 10: M Stallard (Wycombe); R Taylor (Brentford). 8: A Akinbiyi (Gillingham); S Barlow (Oldham); B Hayles (Bristol Rovers); M Jansen (Carlisle). 7: A Ellis (Blackpool); S Goater (Bristol City), R Rowe (York); D Seal (Northampton) A Lormor (Chesterfield); T Thorpe (Luton). 6: G Creaney (Burnley); D Lowe (Wigan), P. Donovan (Grimsby). R Rosenthal (Watford); J Gayle (Northampton); K Rapley (Brentford)

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

CELTIC (2) 2 ST JOHNSTN (0) 0
Larsson 31
Donnelly 34 (pen)
48,545

Celtic: J Gould, T Boyd, S Mahe, J McNamara, M Rieper, A Stubbs, H Larsson (sub: D Hannah, 87min), C Burley, S Donnelly, E Wieghorst, R Blinker (sub: P O'Donnell, 81min)

St Johnstone: A Main, J McQuillan, A Preston, A Sekerlioglu (sub: G O'Boyle, 72min), D Griffin, S McCluskey, K O'Halloran (sub: P Scott, 56min), J O'Neil, R Grant, N Dasovic (sub: P Kane, 79min), L Jenkinson.

Booked: McQuillan, Sekerlioglu.

Referee: T Brown.

DUNDEE UTD (1) 2 RANGERS (0) 1
Winters 16
Pressley 72 (pen)
Negri 59
12,600

Dundee United: S Dykstra, J Dolan (sub: M Skoldmark, 68min), M Malpas, S Pressley, M Perry, E Pedersen, K Olofsson, L Zetterlund, R Winters (sub: G McSwegan, 75min), C Easton, A McLaren.

Booked: Malpas

Rangers: A Goram, C Miller (sub: A Vidmar, 83min), S Stensaas, R Gough, G Petric, J Bjorklund (sub: G Durie, 83min), R Gattuso, P Gascoigne, M Negri, S McCall, B Laudrup.

Booked: Goram, Gough.

Referee: J McCluskey.

KILMARNCK (0) 2 HIBERNIAN (0) 1
Roberts 54
Nevin 57
Lavrusson 80
7,541
Sent off: D Kerr (Kilmarnock) 15, K Harper (Hibernian) 15

Kilmarnock: C Meldrum, N Whitworth, D Kerr, R Montgomerie, K McGowne, M Reilly, P Nevin (sub: G Holt, 87min), J Henry (sub: W Findlay, 76min), M Roberts (sub: A Mitchell, 83min), J Vareille, A Burke

Booked: Montgomerie, McGowne.

Hibernian: D Gottskalksson, W Miller, J Boco, A Dods (sub: P Tosh, 78min), J Hughes, J Chamley (sub: B Welsh, 60min), A Dow (sub: B Lavrusson, 60min), B Lavety, S Crawford, K Harper, P McGinlay

Booked: Dods, Miller, Hughes, Welsh, Lavety, McGinlay.

Referee: S Dougal

MOTHERWLL (0) 1 ABERDEEN (1) 2
Davies 62
Windass 8, 89
6,065

Motherwell: S Woods, K Christie (sub: W Davies, 54min), S McMillan, G Jonsson, J Philliben, G Denham, J Weir (sub: E Shivute, 43min), S Valakari, L McCulloch, J Hendry (sub: S Craigan, 83min), O Coyle

Booked: Jonsson, Denham, McCulloch

Aberdeen: J Leighton, R Anderson, T Tzvetanov, P Bernard, A Kombouare, G Smith, D Rowson, E Jess, M Newell (sub: R Gillies, 44min), D Windass, S Glass (sub: J Miller, 68min)

Referee: G Allison.

FIRST DIVISION

FALKIRK (1) 1 DUNDEE (0) 1
Moss 12
Elliot 64
4,076

G MORTON (1) 1 AYR (1) 1
Anderson 30
Djeslo 5
2,344

PARTICK (2) 3 HAMILTON (1) 3
Stirling 20 (pen), 33 (pen)
Adams 71
Clark 2
Renicks 62
McCulloch 90
2,217

RAITH (1) 2 STIRLING (0) 0
Hartley 38
Wright 84
3,380

ST MIRREN (0) 0 AIRDRIE (1) 2
2,706
Jack 42
Connelly 74
Sent off: K Black (Airdrie) 67

SECOND DIVISION

BRECHIN (0) 2 FORFAR (0) 0
Brand 52
Campbell 75
620
Sent off: R Farningham (Forfar) 45

CLYDE (0) 0 CLYDEBANK (1) 1
1,007
McWilliams 24

EAST FIFE (1) 1 INVERNESS CT (2) 5
Gibb 41
Shearer 4
Stewart 6, 79, 81
Cherry 32
668

LIVINGSTON (1) 2 STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1
McLeod 25
Young 48
Hunter 68
1,690

QUEEN OF SOUTH (1) 2 STRANRAER (0) 1
Bryce 9
Townsley 54
McIntyre 59
1,608

THIRD DIVISION

ALBION (0) 0 QUEEN'S PARK (0) 0
548

ALLOA (0) 0 EAST STIRLING (0) 2
Watt 46
Kennedy 61

ARBROATH (1) 1 MONTROSE (1) 2
Cooper 24 (pen)
Higgins 37
Tindal 49
1,156

DUMBARTON (1) 1 BERWICK (2) 4
Glancy 35
Fraser 25
Walton 41, 79 (pen)
Forrester 61
413

ROSS CO (3) 5 COWDNBTH (0) 0
Adams 1
Herd 40
Ferguson 44
Humphreys 64 (og)
Hart 69
1,231

GOALSCORERS

PREMIER DIVISION: 23: M Negri (Rangers) 14: R Winters (Dundee Utd) 12: G McSwegan (Dundee Utd) 10: S Donnelly (Celtic) 9: H Larsson (Celtic) 8: T Coyne (Motherwell) A Smith (Dunfermline) 7: P Wright (Kilmarnock) A McCoist (Rangers) 6: K Olofsson (Dundee Utd) D Dodds (Aberdeen) M Newell (Aberdeen) 5: J Hamilton (Hearts) B Lavety (Hibernian), C Burley (Celtic) A Thom (Celtic) 4: I Cameron (Hearts), J Charnley (Hibernian)

FIRST DIVISION: 6: A Bone (Stirling) J Mendes (St Mirren); P McGrillen (Falkirk) 5: E Annand (Dundee); G Clark (Hamilton); D McFarlane (Hamilton); S Cooper (Airdrie); S Kerrigan (Ayr) D Moss (Falkirk), K Wright (Raith), W Hawke (Greenock Morton) 4: C Adams (Partick) L Dair (Raith), A Morgan (Partick) E Cunnington (Hamilton), C Taggart (Stirling) P Duffield (Raith), A Craig (Falkirk) I Anderson (Dundee).

SECOND DIVISION: 9: S Mallan (Queen of South) 7: B Honeyman (Forfar): B Thomson (Inverness Cal.) 6: I Stewart (Inverness Cal.), C Flannigan (Queen of South) 5: R Brand (Brechin); T Bryce (Queen of South), G Young (Stranraer) 4: P Brownlie (Clyde): G Harvey (Livingston) M McLauchlan (Forfar) K Eadie (Queen of South); D Townsley (Queen of South): R Dochery (Stranraer), J Henderson (Stenhousemuir) 3: T Black (Stranraer), I Little (Stenhousemuir), P McIntyre (Stranraer)

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

DOVER (0) 0 WOKING (0) 2
1,384
Betsy 54
Hay 88
Sent off: L Palmer (Dover) 80

GATESHEAD (0) 0 TELFORD (2) 2
424
Gray 12, 40

STEVENAGE (1) 1 HEDNESFORD (0) 1
Crawshaw 17
Dennison 87 (pen)
2,143

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Halifax	11	6	0	0	19	3	3	2	0	8	3	29
Hednesford	15	6	2	0	13	5	2	3	2	10	13	29
Morecambe	12	3	2	1	13	10	5	1	0	17	4	27
Woking	15	4	2	1	14	7	3	3	2	10	8	26
Cheltenham	13	4	2	0	12	7	3	2	2	10	9	25
Hayes	14	3	1	3	12	9	3	2	2	12	7	21
Southport	13	3	1	2	12	8	3	2	2	11	8	21
Hereford	14	3	2	2	12	10	2	3	2	7	7	20
Rushden	13	3	2	1	12	10	3	0	4	8	12	20
Stevenage	15	2	4	2	10	11	2	2	3	8	10	18
Dover	13	3	1	3	9	11	2	1	3	9	12	17
Slough	12	1	2	3	11	12	3	2	1	10	7	16
Farnborough	14	3	0	4	7	10	2	1	4	9	15	16
Kiddrmnstr	14	2	2	3	8	9	2	1	4	8	10	15
Northwich	13	1	4	0	5	4	1	4	3	10	14	14
Welling	12	2	2	2	9	11	2	0	4	9	13	14
Yeovil	10	3	1	2	9	7	1	0	3	6	8	13
Stalybridge	12	3	1	2	13	10	1	0	5	3	10	13
Telford	13	1	2	3	5	9	2	2	3	8	11	13
Leek	14	1	2	3	5	7	1	2	5	9	19	10
Gateshead	13	1	2	5	7	14	0	3	2	9	15	8
Kettering	11	0	2	4	5	11	0	3	2	4	8	5

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Alfreton 0 Radcliffe 2; Bishop Auckland 3 Leigh RMI 2; Chorley 1 Guiseley 0; Lancaster 1 Bamber Bridge 0; Marine 1 Frickley 1; Spennymoor 2 Accrington Stanley 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barrow	16	10	4	2	28	11	34
Boston Utd	16	7	7	2	22	14	28
Spennymr	13	7	3	3	19	16	24
Altrnchm	15	7	2	6	27	14	23
Gainsboro	12	7	2	3	21	12	23
Runcorn	14	7	2	5	27	21	23
Bishop Auck	14	6	5	3	26	21	23
Winsford Utd	9	7	1	1	15	5	22
Colwyn Bay	15	6	3	6	21	25	21
Lancaster	15	6	2	7	25	29	20
Guiseley	15	4	7	4	22	21	19
Emley	13	5	3	5	23	20	18
Frickley	13	4	5	4	14	16	17
Hyde Utd	11	4	3	4	15	14	15
Radcliffe B	15	4	3	8	20	30	15
Marine	11	3	5	3	14	14	14
Accrington S	16	3	5	8	16	25	14
Leigh RMI	10	3	4	3	11	9	13
Bamber Bridge	14	3	3	8	19	29	12
Chorley	14	3	3	8	16	29	12
Blyth Spartans	14	2	5	7	13	21	11
Alfreton Town	13	2	1	10	9	27	7

FIRST DIVISION: Ashton 3 Congleton 2; Droylsden 1 Buxton 0; Farsley Celtic 0 Witton 2; Flixton 1 Great Harwood 0; Matlock Town 1 Whitley Bay 1; Stocksbridge PS 0 Netherfield 1; Trafford 1 Bradford P A 1; Whitby 2 Belper Town 2; Workington 1 Eastwood Town 4; Worksop 3 Harrogate Town 3.

DR MARTENS

PREMIER DIVISION: Atherstone 0 Merthyr 2; Burton 1 Cambridge City 3; Dorchester 2 Gresley 3; Forest Green 2 St Leonards 2; Hastings 3 Rothwell 1; Tamworth 2 Crawley 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Merthyr	14	10	2	2	38	11	32
Forest Green	14	8	3	3	33	25	27
Crawley Town	14	7	3	4	28	21	24
Nuneaton	12	7	2	3	34	16	23
Bath	12	6	5	1	24	17	23
Dorchester	12	6	4	2	18	9	22
Bromsgrve	12	7	0	5	29	19	21
Burton Albion	14	6	2	6	18	17	20
Hastings	14	5	4	5	25	22	19
Atherstone	12	5	3	4	17	17	18
Salisbury	12	5	2	5	18	22	17
Rothwell Town	13	4	5	4	21	29	17
Halesowen	11	4	4	3	14	7	16
Worcester City	11	5	1	5	13	15	16
Kings Lynn	11	4	4	3	14	18	16
Tamworth	13	4	3	6	24	24	15
Gloucester City	11	4	2	5	12	11	14
Camb City	13	3	3	7	17	25	12
Gresley Rovers	13	3	3	7	19	34	12
Sittingbourne	12	2	2	8	13	21	8
Ashford Town	12	2	1	9	9	27	7
St Leonards	12	0	2	10	10	35	2

MIDLAND DIVISION: Bilston 3 Bedworth 1; Brackley 2 Shepshed Dynamo 1; Evesham 0 Corby 1; Raunds 1 R C Warwick 2; Redditch 0 Paget 0; Stafford 1 Blakenall 0; Sutton Coldfield Town 0 Stourbridge 2; V S Rugby 1 Grantham 3. Southern division: Bashley 2 Dartford 2; Clevedon 0 Baldock 0; Erith and Belvedere 2 Chelmsford 2; Fisher 2 Cirencester 2; Newport IoW 0 Trowbridge 0; Waterlooville 3 Cinderford 1; Weymouth 4 Tonbridge Angels 1; Witney 2 Newport A F C 2; Yate 0 Weston-super-Mare 1

ISTHMIAN

PREMIER DIVISION: Bishop's Stortford 2 Purfleet 0; Bromley 2 Gravesend and Northfleet 0; Dag and Red 1 Yeading 1; Hitchin 2 Harrow 2; Oxford City 1 Dulwich 2; Walton and Hersham 3 Aylesbury 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dag & Red	16	10	4	2	26	15	34
Sutton Utd	12	9	1	2	30	13	28
Boreham W	14	6	4	4	30	18	22
Harrow Bo	12	7	1	4	18	16	22
Purfleet	13	6	4	3	17	16	22
Enfield	15	6	3	6	22	24	21
Kingstnian	12	5	5	2	21	13	20
St Albans	12	6	2	4	17	12	20
Bromley	16	5	5	6	22	21	20
Heybridge	11	6	1	4	24	18	19
Hendon	14	5	4	5	16	19	19
Bishop's S	15	6	1	8	22	26	19
Dulwich	14	4	6	4	25	23	18
Yeading	13	4	5	4	16	15	17
Walton & H	14	5	1	8	18	26	16
Aylesbury	14	5	1	8	13	27	16
Chesham	14	4	2	8	24	24	14
Gravesend & N	13	4	2	7	24	25	14
Carshalton	11	3	4	4	19	23	13
Hitchin	14	3	4	7	12	16	13
Basingstoke	11	3	3	5	11	21	12
Oxford City	14	2	3	9	12	30	9

FIRST DIVISION: Aldershot Town 1 Barton Rovers 0; Chertsey 1 Hampton 1; Grays 2 Thame Utd 0; Leyton Pennant 2 Abingdon Town 1; Molesey 0 Maidenhead United 3; Uxbridge 2 Croydon 1; Wokingham 2 Leatherhead 2; Worthing 3 Berkhamsted 1. Second division: Barking 0 Canvey Island 4; Bedford Town 0 Wealdstone 0; Cheshunt 0 Chalfont St Peter 2; Edgware 2 Tooting and Mitcham 2; Egham 0 Banstead 4; Horsham 1 Hungerford 1; Marlow 1 Tilbury 0; Northwood 1 Witham 2; Windsor and Eton 1 Met Police 1; Wivenhoe 2 Bracknell 2. Third division: Aveley 2 Hemel Hempstead 0; Corinthian Casuals 1 Southall 2; Croydon 0 Ford 1; Epsom and Ewell 1 Hertford 2; Harlow 2 Kingsbury 0; Hornchurch 0 Flackwell Heath 0; Lewes 0 East Thurrock 5; Wingate and Finchley 1 Ware 0.

FA CUP

FOURTH QUALIFYING ROUND: Altrnchm 0 Morecambe 2; Basingstoke 5 Braintree 1; Billericay 1 Camberley Town 1; Blyth Spartans 2 Kiddrmnstr 1; Bognor 0 Farnborough 0; Bromsgrove 2 Romford 0; Cheltenham 1 Sutton United 0; Enfield 1 Carshalton 2; Gainsborough 2 Halifax 1; Gloucester 1 Wisbech 1; Halesowen 0 Northwich 2; Heybridge Swifts 5 Ashford 2; Hinckley Utd 1 Colwyn Bay 2; Ilkeston 3 Hyde 2; King's Lynn 5 Salisbury 0; Knypersley V 0 Boston 1; Nuneaton 2 Emley 3; Runcorn 1 Lincoln United 2; Rushden and Diamonds 1 Boreham Wood 1; Sittingbourne 2 Hereford 2; Slough 2 Kingstonian 1; Southport 2 N Ferriby 0; St Albans 1 Hendon 2; Stalybridge 3 Solihull 3; Tiverton 5 Sudbury 0; Winsford 2 Penrith 0; Yeovil 1 Hayes 1.

FIRST-ROUND DRAW: Northern section: Notts County v Colwyn Bay; Darlington v Stalybridge Celtic or Solihull Borough; Chesterfield v Northwich Victoria; Hull City v Hednesford Town; Hartlepool United v Macclesfield Town; Chester City v Winsford United; Rochdale v Wrexham; Morecambe v Emley; Ilkeston Town v Boston United; Lincoln City v Gainsborough Trinity; Shrewsbury Town v Grimsby Town; Oldham Athletic v Mansfield Town; Rotherham United v Burnley; Southport v York City; Preston North End v Doncaster Rovers; Carlisle United v Wigan Athletic; Walsall v Lincoln United; Blackpool v Blyth Spartans; Scunthorpe United v Scarborough. Southern section: Swansea City v Peterborough United; Sittingbourne or Hereford United v Brighton; Yeovil Town or Hayes Town v Rushden and Diamonds or Boreham Wood; Cheltenham Town v Tiverton Town; Billericay Town or Camberley Town v Gloucester City or Wisbech Town; Bognor Regis Town or Farnborough Town v Dagenham and Redbridge; Hendon v Leyton Orient; Brentford v Colchester United; AFC Bournemouth v Heybridge Swifts; Wycombe Wanderers v Basingstoke Town; Woking v Southend United; Luton Town v Torquay United; Plymouth Argyle v Cambridge United; Exeter City v Northampton Town; Carshalton Athletic v Stevenage Borough; Slough Town v Cardiff City; King's Lynn v Bromsgrove Rovers; Bristol Rovers v Gillingham; Margate v Fulham; Barnet v Watford; Bristol City v Millwall.

☐ Ties to be played weekend of Nov 15

FA CARLSBERG VASE: Second qualifying round: Cartertown 3 Ilford Tower 1.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Bowers 1 Stansted 0; Burnham Ramblers 1 East Ham 2; Concord 2 Brentwood 1; Great Wakering 1 Hullbridge Sports 3; Ilford 3 Eton Manor 1; Saffron Walden 0 Southend Manor 0; Sawbridgeworth 0 Basildon 1

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Bicester 0 Swindon Supermarine 4; Burnham 2 Hellen 3; Harrow Hill 1 Fairford 1; Highworth 1 Shortbury 3; Wantage 3 Abingdon 2.

CCURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford 2 Cove 0; Bedfont 1 Cobham 1; Cranleigh 0 Reading 3; Godalming and Guildford 2 Feltham 2; Hartley Wintney 4 Chessington and Hook 0; Merstham 1 Farnham 4; Raynes Park Vale 4 Ash 2; Walton Casuals 2 Viking Sports 3; Westfield 0 Chipstead 1; Sandhurst 4 Netherne 2

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hassocks 6 Arundel 0; Mile Oak 3 Hailsham 2; Pagham 0 Eastbourne Town 2; Portfield 2 Peacehaven and Telscombe 3; Ringmer 5 Horsham Y M C A 1; Saltdean 2 Chichester 1; Shoreham 0 Burgess Hill 4

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Corinthian 2 Sheppey 3; Cray 2 Faversham 1; Crockenhill 1 Whitstable 3; Deal 1 Greenwich 1; Erith 3 Tunbridge Wells 2; Folkestone Invicta 1 Chatham 2; Herne Bay 2 Beckenham 2; Lordswood 1 Hythe 2; Swanley Furness 3 Canterbury 0; Thamesmead 1 Slade Green 1; V C D 1 Ramsgate 5.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS: Premier division North: Biggleswade 0 Bedford 1; Harpenden 5 Langford 1; Hoddesdon 0 London Colney 2; Milton Keynes 3 Toddington 1; Potters Bar 3 Welwyn Garden 2. Premier division South: Barkingside 1 Amersham 0; Beaconsfield 0 Ruislip Manor 1; Cockfosters 0 Harefield 1; Hillingdon Boro 2 Brook House 1, Waltham Abbey 1 Hanwell 2. O'Brien Butchers Premier division Cup: Woodford 5 Islington St Marys 1.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Buckingham 1 Boston 0; Cogenhoe 1 Kempston 0; Desborough 6 Bourne 1; Holbeach 2 S and L Corby 3; M Blackstone 3 Potton 1; Spalding 1 St Neots 4; Stamford 5 Stotfold 3; W'Borough 0 Long Buckby 2; Wootton 1 Ford Sports 4; Yaxley 3 N Spencer 5.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Brierley Hill 5 Cradley 2; Bustleholme 2 Wolverhampton Casuals 0; Ettingshall 0 Malvern 5; Kington 5 Bloxwich 1; Ludlow 3 Darlaston 1; Lye 2 Tividale 0; Westfields 0 Stafford 0; Wolverhampton 3 Gornal 3. Cup: First round, first leg: Walsall Wood 0 Newport 6; Cradley 2 Lucas Flight Controls 2; Hinton 1 Pershore 2; B'Ham Coll Of Foods 1 Cannock Chase 1; Lawson Mardon Star 2 Tipton 0; Great Wyrley 1 Brierley Hill Tn 0; Wellington 3 Tividale 1; Malvern 1 Heath Hayes 2; Leominster 3 Sikh Hunters 2; Corestone Services 4 Wolverhampton Cas 0

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch 0 Bilston Community College 2; Bolehill Swifts 2 Studley B K L 1; Continental Star 3 David Lloyd A F C 0; Coventry Sphinx 4 Dudley Sports 1; Kenilworth 0 Highgate 0; Knowle 6 Wellesbourne 1; Meir K A 1 Coleshill 1.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Newmarket 3 Felixstowe Port and 2; Soham 1 Great Yarmouth 1; Stowmarket 2 Bury Town 1; Sudbury Wanderers 0 Histon 1; Watton 2 Tiptree 2; Clacton 2 Lowestoft 1; Ely 5 Wroxham 1; Gorleston 1 Woodbridge 2; Halstead 0 Warboys 1; Harwich and Parkeston 5 Fakenham 1.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: AFC Newbury 2 Aerostructures 0; B.A.T. 4 Ryde Sports 1; Bemerton Heath Hart 3 Portsmouth R.N 0; Christchurch 0 Eastleigh 2; Downton 2 Brockenhurst 1; Thatcham 6 Romsey 0; Whitchurch 2 East Cowes 0; Wimborne 1 Lymington 0.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Invitation Cup: Worcester 0 Stourport 1.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton LR 0 Atherton Collieries 1; Burscough 0 Newcastle Town 0; Darwen 1 Prescot Cables 2; Haslingden 2 Clitheroe 2; Holker Old Boys 4 Blackpool Rovers 1; Kidsgrove 2 Vauxhall G M 1; Mossley 2 Ramsbottom 3; Nantwich 2 Rossendale 1; Salford 0 Chadderton 2; St Helens 1 Maine Road 1; Warrington 0 Glossop North End 1.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold 0 Ossett Albion 0; Brigg 1 Pontefract Cols 0; Curzon Ashton 2 Selby 0; Eccleshill 2 Liversedge 1; Glasshoughton Welfare 3 Denaby 0; Hallam 0 Hucknall 1; Hatfield Main 0 Thackley 1; Maltby M W 0 Armthorpe Welfare 1; Pickering 0 Sheffield 0

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple 3 Mangotsfield 4; Bideford 3 Bristol Manor Farm 0; Brislington 1 Bridgwater 3; Chard 3 Calne 2; Keynsham 0 Taunton 4; Odd Down 0 Backwell 0; Torrington 1 Paulton 5; Westbury 0 Elmore 1

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES: First division: Arsenal 6 Southend 3; Cambridge 1 Millwall 5; Charlton 5 Ipswich 0; Fulham 2 Leyton Orient 0; Norwich 3 Gillingham 0; Tottenham Hotspur 3 Queens Park Rangers 1; Watford 1 Portsmouth 2; West Ham 5 Crystal Palace 0. Second division: Bournemouth 1 Brighton 1; Bristol Rovers 3 Barnet 3; Colchester 1 Bristol City 2; Luton 1 Tottenham Hotspur 0; Reading 2 Southampton 2; Wimbledon 4 Swindon 2; Wycombe 2 Oxford 4.

FA PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE: Chelsea 4 Southampton 1; Coventry 1 Barnsley 0; Crystal Palace 0 Arsenal 2; Derby 1 Middlesbrough 1; Queens Park Rangers 2 Wimbledon 0; Tottenham Hotspur 3 West Ham 2

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Latymer O B 3 C Manning O B 1; Old Meadonians 2 Old Aloysians 8.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Lensbury 0 Lloyds Bank 0; Crouch End Vampires 4 Carshalton 0; West Wickham 3 Civil Service 1; Polytechnic 0 Norsemen 2; Old Parmiterians 1 Old Actonians 6; Barclays Bank 4 Cuaco 1; Nat West Bank 0 Winchmore Hill 1; Alexandra Park 1 Old Lyonians 1; Bank of England 2 Merton 2; Southgate Olympic 4 Old Westminster Ctz. 0; Brentham 1 Broomfield 0; Ibis 0 Kew Association 1.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Hale End 1 H A C 0; Parkfield 2 Nottsborough 1; St Marys College 2 Witan 1; Southgate County 1 City of London 7.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Malvernians 0 Salopians 1. Premier division: Etonians 3 Haberdashers 1.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Postponed: Arsenal v Wembley; Everton v Millwall; Liverpool v Tranmere Rovers.

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Arnold 0 Sheff Wed 5; Bloxwich 2 Blyth Spartans 7. Postponed: Coventry v Ilkeston; Garswood St Helens v Huddersfield; Wolverhampton v Aston Villa. Southern division: Three Bridges 1 Ipswich 1. Postponed: Barry v Wimbledon; Brighton and Hove v Whitehawk; Leyton Orient v Rushden and Diamonds; Southampton Saints v Langford.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City 2 Carmarthen Town 2; Caernarfon 1 Cwmbran 4; Conwy 3 Caersws 0; Flint Town 1 Barry 2; Haverfordwest 0 Rhyl 1; Newtown 4 Porthmadog 0; Rhayader Town 5 Cemaes Ynys Mon 0; Total Network Solutions 2 Ebbw Vale 3; Welshpool 1 Aberystwyth 3; Connah's Quay 0 Inter Cable-Tel 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barry Town	12	11	1	0	50	16	34
Ebbw Vale	13	9	2	2	28	17	29
Rhyl	12	9	1	2	23	9	28
Cwmbran	13	8	2	3	27	17	26
Inter Cable-Tel	13	8	2	3	20	10	26
Newtown	12	7	3	2	27	18	24
Bangor City	11	7	2	2	24	17	23
Carmarthen T	12	6	4	2	24	16	22
Connah's Quay	13	5	6	2	24	20	21
Aberystwyth	11	5	5	1	19	11	20
Conwy	13	4	2	7	20	25	14
Haverfordwest	12	3	3	6	17	22	12
TNS	13	1	9	3	21	31	12
Flint Town	12	3	2	7	18	26	11
Caersws	12	3	1	8	19	27	10
Rhayader Town	13	3	1	9	20	33	10
Caernarfon T	10	1	2	7	12	24	5
Cemaes	12	1	2	9	8	25	5
Porthmadog	12	1	1	10	8	26	4
Welshpool	13	1	1	11	16	35	4

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Clachnacuddin 1 Elgin 1; Cove 0 Buckie Thistle 1; Fraserburgh 6 Fort William 0; Nairn County 3 Keith 0; Rothes 2 Forres Mechanics 2; Wick Academy 3 Huntly 0.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards 2 Cliftonville 3; Ballymena 2 Crusaders 3; Glentoran 0 Glenavon 1; Omagh 1 Linfield 0; Portadown 0 Coleraine 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cliftonville	11	6	2	3	18	15	20
Portadown	10	5	3	2	14	10	18
Glenavon	11	5	3	3	19	16	18
Coleraine	11	5	2	4	17	12	17
Ballymena	11	5	2	4	17	15	17
Linfield	10	4	3	3	13	7	15
Crusaders	11	4	3	4	18	18	15
Glentoran	11	4	2	5	11	11	14
Omagh Town	11	2	6	3	17	22	12
Ards	11	0	2	9	8	26	2

FIRST DIVISION: Ballyclare 0 Newry 2; Distillery 3 Limavady 0; Dungannon Swifts 3 Bangor 3; Larne 1 Carrick 0.

FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Finn Harps 1 UCD 0; Kilkenny City 0 Derry City 5; Sligo Rovers 0 Cork City 2; Bohemians 1 Shelbourne 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Patricks Ath	9	5	3	1	14	9	18
Shamrock R	8	5	1	2	13	7	16
Shelbourne	8	5	0	3	18	10	15
Cork City	8	5	0	3	12	7	15
Dundalk	8	4	3	1	15	11	15
Finn Harps	9	5	0	4	15	14	15
Bohemians	8	3	5	1	19	10	14
Sligo Rovers	8	3	2	3	16	16	11
Derry City	8	2	2	4	8	9	8
UCD	8	2	2	4	8	10	8
Kilkenny City	8	1	0	7	7	25	3
Drogheda Utd	9	0	2	7	7	24	2

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	2	2	3	2	1	1	2	3	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	2
2	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	3	2	1	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1

FORECAST: Half-time: five score draws and 14 no-score draws. No claims required — winnings sent automatically — Totecast is moderate. Full-time: No claims required — forecast is low; 12 score draws and four no-score draws.

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Nottm F	13	5	1	1	14	6	3	2	1	7	4	27	(21)
2 Swindon	14	5	2	0	13	5	2	2	3	5	12	25	(18)
3 West Brom	13	4	1	1	7	3	3	2	2	10	9	24	(17)
4 Bradford	13	4	2	1	9	8	2	3	1	7	6	23	(16)
5 Charlton	13	3	2	1	12	9	3	2	2	15	9	22	(27)
6 Sheff Utd	11	4	2	0	12	4	2	2	1	6	5	22	(18)
7 Middlesbro	11	3	0	2	8	6	3	3	0	12	6	21	(20)
8 QPR	13	4	1	1	9	5	2	2	3	9	14	21	(18)
9 Stoke	13	3	1	2	9	8	3	2	2	6	6	21	(15)
10 Sunderland	13	3	2	2	11	7	3	0	3	8	10	20	(19)
11 Stockport	14	4	3	0	13	6	1	1	5	9	15	19	(22)
12 Wolvrhmptn	14	4	3	0	14	7	1	1	5	3	9	19	(17)
13 Birmingham	13	3	1	2	6	2	2	3	2	9	8	19	(15)
14 Port Vale	14	4	2	1	12	5	1	1	5	7	13	18	(19)
15 Crewe	13	1	2	4	8	11	3	1	2	9	8	15	(17)
16 Bury	14	2	4	1	7	7	1	2	4	8	14	15	(15)
17 Norwich	13	2	2	3	4	10	2	1	3	5	9	15	(9)
18 Oxford Utd	14	3	1	3	9	9	1	1	5	9	14	14	(18)
19 Reading	14	2	2	3	13	13	1	3	3	3	11	14	(16)
20 Ipswich	11	3	1	1	8	5	0	3	3	4	7	13	(12)
21 Tranmere	13	3	1	2	12	8	0	2	5	7	12	12	(19)
22 Man City	12	1	3	2	10	6	1	1	4	6	10	10	(16)
23 Portsmth	13	2	2	3	11	12	0	2	4	5	10	10	(16)
24 Huddersfld	13	0	3	4	4	11	0	2	4	4	14	5	(8)

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Watford	14	5	1	1	11	5	5	1	1	12	5	32	(23)
2 Northmptn	14	5	1	1	9	5	2	4	1	7	4	26	(16)
3 Gillingham	14	5	2	0	11	5	2	1	4	9	10	24	(20)
4 Millwall	12	4	1	1	13	7	3	1	2	5	4	23	(18)
5 Oldham	14	5	2	0	16	8	0	4	3	7	12	21	(23)
6 York	14	5	0	2	13	8	1	3	3	7	11	21	(20)
7 Bristol City	13	5	1	1	13	5	1	2	3	5	7	21	(18)
8 Bournemth	14	3	3	1	7	4	2	3	2	9	8	21	(16)
9 Blackpool	14	4	2	1	14	10	2	0	5	8	13	20	(22)
10 Bristol R	14	3	1	3	9	9	2	4	1	9	8	20	(18)
11 Chestrfld	14	4	2	1	11	7	1	3	3	4	7	20	(15)
12 Wycombe	14	4	2	1	12	7	1	2	4	10	14	19	(22)
13 Preston	14	4	1	2	8	4	1	3	3	6	7	19	(14)
14 Wigan	14	4	2	1	16	11	1	1	5	5	11	18	(21)
15 Wrexham	13	3	2	1	11	7	2	1	4	8	10	18	(19)
16 Fulham	14	4	2	1	8	4	1	1	5	5	10	18	(13)
17 Grimsby	14	2	3	2	4	4	2	2	3	8	11	17	(12)
18 Luton	14	3	1	3	9	12	1	3	3	3	7	16	(12)
19 Walsall	14	4	2	1	12	5	0	1	6	5	16	15	(17)
20 Brentford	14	4	2	1	13	6	0	1	6	4	16	15	(17)
21 Southend	14	3	3	1	7	5	1	0	6	7	19	15	(14)
22 Carlisle	14	2	1	4	5	10	1	1	5	12	17	11	(17)
23 Burnley	14	1	6	0	8	6	0	2	5	4	10	11	(12)
24 Plymouth	14	1	4	2	9	10	0	3	4	5	12	10	(14)

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Peterboro	14	6	0	1	17	5	3	3	1	16	9	30	(33)
2 Notts Co	14	4	2	1	9	6	4	3	0	12	6	29	(21)
3 Exeter	14	3	3	1	10	7	5	1	1	12	7	28	(22)
4 Lincoln	14	3	3	1	9	7	4	1	2	7	6	25	(16)
5 Barnet	14	4	1	2	10	5	3	2	2	11	13	24	(21)
6 Scnthrpe	13	4	2	1	8	4	3	0	3	6	8	23	(14)
7 Colchester	14	4	2	1	11	7	2	2	3	10	12	22	(21)
8 Macclsfld	14	5	2	0	14	5	0	5	2	5	8	22	(19)
9 Scarboro	14	4	1	2	12	9	2	2	3	7	10	21	(19)
10 Hartlpool	14	4	3	0	13	7	0	5	2	8	11	20	(21)
11 Chester	14	5	2	0	12	3	1	0	6	9	19	20	(21)
12 Torquay	14	4	2	1	12	5	1	2	4	7	14	19	(19)
13 Rotherham	14	3	3	1	15	11	1	3	3	6	9	18	(21)
14 Mansfield	14	3	2	2	13	9	2	1	4	3	5	18	(16)
15 Cambs Utd	14	3	2	2	14	12	1	3	3	5	6	17	(19)
16 Cardiff	13	1	4	1	7	8	2	4	1	7	6	17	(14)
17 L Orient	14	2	2	3	5	7	2	3	2	9	8	17	(14)
18 Rochdale	14	5	0	2	14	4	0	1	6	5	13	16	(19)
19 Shrwsbury	14	4	0	3	9	7	0	3	4	8	13	15	(17)
20 Swansea	14	3	1	3	7	5	1	0	6	10	19	13	(17)
21 Darlington	14	2	4	1	11	7	0	2	5	4	14	12	(15)
22 Hull	14	2	3	2	13	12	1	0	6	2	11	12	(15)
23 Brighton	14	1	3	3	6	9	1	1	5	5	12	10	(11)
24 Doncaster	14	0	2	5	4	18	0	2	5	5	16	4	(9)

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Celtic	9	3	0	1	9	2	4	0	1	10	6	21	+11
2 Rangers	9	3	2	0	20	7	3	0	1	10	5	20	+18
3 Hearts	9	2	0	1	7	4	4	0	2	12	7	18	+8
4 Hibernian	10	3	1	2	15	9	0	2	2	3	6	12	+3
5 St Johnstn	10	1	1	3	3	7	2	2	1	5	5	12	-4
6 Dunfrline	9	1	3	1	8	9	2	0	2	6	14	12	-9
7 Kilmarnck	10	2	0	3	4	8	1	2	2	3	10	11	-12
8 Dundee Utd	10	2	1	2	9	6	0	3	2	7	12	10	-2
9 Aberdeen	10	1	2	2	5	6	1	1	3	6	11	9	-6
10 Motherwll	10	0	1	4	5	11	2	1	2	8	9	8	-7

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Dundee	10	3	1	1	7	4	4	1	0	10	3	23	+10
2 Hamilton	10	3	1	1	8	5	3	2	0	11	4	21	+10
3 Raith	10	4	1	0	9	2	1	2	2	6	7	18	+6
4 Falkirk	10	3	1	1	8	7	2	1	2	9	12	17	-2
5 Ayr	10	2	1	2	7	7	1	2	2	5	5	12	0
6 Airdrie	10	1	3	1	5	6	1	3	1	4	3	12	0
7 St Mirren	10	2	2	1	6	6	1	0	4	5	9	11	-4
8 G Morton	10	0	2	3	3	9	2	0	3	7	7	8	-6
9 Partick	10	1	1	3	9	13	0	3	2	4	7	7	-7
10 Stirling	10	0	2	3	5	9	1	1	3	7	10	6	-7

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Livingston	10	4	1	0	10	5	2	2	1	7	6	21	+7
2 Clydebank	10	2	2	1	7	4	2	3	0	5	2	17	+6
3 East Fife	10	2	0	3	9	13	3	1	1	7	5	16	-2
4 Stranraer	10	4	1	0	13	4	0	2	3	4	8	15	+5
5 Forfar	10	2	0	3	8	11	3	0	2	10	8	15	-1
6 Queen Of S	10	3	1	1	10	8	1	0	4	8	10	13	0
7 Stenhsmuir	10	3	1	1	10	10	1	0	4	5	9	13	-4
8 Clyde	10	2	1	2	5	4	1	2	2	7	10	12	-2
9 Brechin	10	1	2	2	4	7	1	1	3	6	13	9	-8
10 Inverness CT.	10	0	3	2	4	6	1	1	3	11	10	7	-1

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Ross Co	11	4	0	2	16	9	3	2	0	12	8	23	+11
2 Arbroath	10	3	1	1	10	5	3	0	2	12	7	19	+10
3 Queen's Pk	11	3	2	0	10	4	2	2	2	6	6	19	+6
4 Albion	10	4	1	0	11	4	2	0	3	10	15	19	+2
5 Alloa	10	3	0	2	12	7	3	0	2	9	6	18	+8
6 East Stirling	10	4	0	1	11	6	2	0	3	6	10	18	+1
7 Berwick	10	2	0	3	10	12	2	1	2	7	6	13	-1
8 Montrose	10	1	0	4	7	11	1	2	2	7	13	8	-10
9 Dumbarton	10	0	3	2	5	9	1	0	4	8	12	6	-8
10 Cowdnbth	10	1	0	4	2	11	0	0	5	1	11	3	-19

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL: QUEENS PARK RANGERS' STOCK RISES AFTER PEACOCK PROVIDES INSPIRATION AT LOFTUS ROAD

City prove bankrupt of ideas to halt slide

Queens Park Rangers .. 2
Manchester City 0

By Brian Glanville

MANCHESTER City are an enigma. At Nottingham Forest, earlier in the season, they played the opposition off the park and looked as if they might stroll into the FA Carling Premiership.

Yesterday, after defeat at Loftus Road in this Nationwide League first division game, they remained down among the dead men and have not scored for four matches, although, as their manager, Frank Clark, and chairman, the former prolific striker, Francis Lee, observed, they were creating chances.

Queens Park Rangers probably won the game when Stewart Houston, their manager, decided to man-mark Georgi Kinkladze. "I just thought Kinkladze could cause us a few problems," Houston said. "He's got certain qualities that make them tick and I just put Danny Maddix on him to counter that."

Counter it, on the whole, Maddix did, though Clark was at pains to emphasise that City do have ten other players on the field. "Danny always marks Kinkladze and marks him well," he said. "I hope he [Maddix] doesn't come here and tell you Kinkladze is the only one we've got.

"It was a good little battle within the overall context of the game, but obviously we'd prefer teams to let 'Joe' [Kinkladze] run free. One of the problems when I got there was a Kinkladze fixation, but we've got some decent players. We've only got one of his talent. We can't sit back and let him win games for us."

"Postage-stamped," to use the Italian expression, as Kinkladze was by Maddix, we inevitably saw him only in fits and starts — but what fits and starts they were. There was a splendid run after 18 minutes of the first half, a pass to Michael Brown, always quick and alert, whose shot was saved by the equally alert Lee Harper, in the QPR goal.

Near the end of the first half, receiving from Horlock, Kinkladze jinked this way and that, baffling the defenders around him, to finish with a shot that flew only just wide of the left-hand post.

Late in the second half, his deflected free kick was uncomfortably pushed round a post by Harper. "We're down there because we don't put away the chances we create," Clark, ever objective, said. "We play well enough in the area from just outside the penalty area to just outside the other penalty area, but you don't get anything for that.

"We've got to keep going, keep working at it, until we can turn it round," Clark added. "They all get well paid for doing something that they want to do. Nobody forces us to stay. We're in the bottom three. We've played 12 games and we've only got ten points. That's a fact. The other side of the coin is they get well looked after, well treated. Sometimes, when the ball goes into the penalty area, I wonder how badly they want it.

"And the two goals we conceded, they were terrible, really. If somebody puts in a dipping free kick and it ends in the net, you could hold your hands up, but [referring to the first goal] you could have thrown it better than that."

That goal came after 14 minutes. Gavin Peacock took a free kick from the right. Karl Ready, the long-haired QPR centre back, volleyed powerfully home with little let or hindrance. This put QPR in the driving seat after some promising early attacks by Manchester City.

Justifiably, Clark was especially pleased with the efforts of Brown, who tested Harper several times. After only four minutes, he might have scored when, after some confusion in the home defence, he shot from close in, only for Harper to frustrate him.

Nine minutes later, after Kinkladze's run, Harper thwarted him again. There was a moment in the second half when he elegantly flicked the ball over one man, left a second on his back and shot from a narrow angle on the goalline, only for Harper to save again.

The second goal came after 32 minutes. Sinclair's fast cross flew across the area and reached Spencer. As the Scot closed in on the ball, Brightwell brought him down and Peacock put away the penalty.

In injury time, Slade, a substitute, might have scored a third for QPR when Spencer nodded on a ball from Barker, but Margetson saved. Houston said that he was delighted that his team had kept a clean sheet. Clark continues to hope for goals for rather than against.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (3-5-2): L Harper — K Ready, D Maddix, S Morrow — M Rose (sub: S Yates, 76min), P Murray (sub: S Barker, 65) — T Sinclair, G Peacock — M Sharon (sub: S Slade, 86), J Spencer
MANCHESTER CITY (3-5-2): M Margetson — I Brightwell (sub: J Whitley, 46), G Wiekens, K Symons — E McGoldrick (sub: C Greenacre, 76), G Brannan, K Horlock, M Brown, R Edghill — G Kinkladze, P Dickov
Referee: R Harris.

GRAHAM CHADWICK / ALLSPORT

Morrow, the QPR defender, left, and Dickov, of Manchester City, indulge in a spot of arm-wrestling yesterday

Age no concern as Malpas foils Rangers

KEVIN McCARRA

Scottish commentary

Praise is at its most sincere when delivered with a note of regret. "Maurice, son, what a difference you made, what a difference." Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, said immediately after his side had been knocked out of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup in September. He had come across Maurice Malpas, captain of the victorious Dundee United, in a corridor at Ibrox.

When the veteran defender was missing from a Bell's Scottish League premier division game between the clubs in August, Rangers had won 5-1. On Saturday, it was proved, yet again, that Malpas's years are a precious stockpile for United rather than a burden. His team defeated Rangers 2-1 at Tannadice.

Malpas has now made 551 appearances for the club in the league alone after making his debut as a teenager in 1981. Then, a degree course in electrical engineering vied with cup finals and European fixtures as a source of stress, but his smooth progress to a career in international football demonstrated a precocious ability to cope with pressure.

He remains unflustered. United are at peace when defending a lead and striking on the counter-attack, but the serenity is the result of Malpas's personality as much as the tactics of Tommy McLean, the manager. When the defender is absent, the team becomes harassed and vulnerable. At the weekend, though, with Malpas in his usual place between the centre backs, it was Rangers who looked distressed.

The away side, who had lost an early goal, equalised because the remarkable Negri capitalised on the only chance that he was allowed and, in then process, set a new record for the premier division by scoring in a ninth successive game. For the rest of the time, though, United were completely successful in nullifying Laudrup and restricting the damage done by Gascoigne.

Malpas, 35, was always to be seen instructing and intervening. There is a deep satisfaction in seeing a man get the better of his age and he demonstrated that football is a game that can be played with the mind. Not all players find such dignity in the late stages of their career.

Against United, spectators were compelled to make a great mental adjustment and accept Andy Goram as a figure of frailty. Since joining Rangers in 1991, the goalkeeper has been synonomous with Rangers' supremacy. At Tannadice, though, Goram, 33, was forlorn. In the sixteenth minute on Saturday, he attempted to dribble the ball away from an on-rushing forward, but Winters easily dispossessed him and scored.

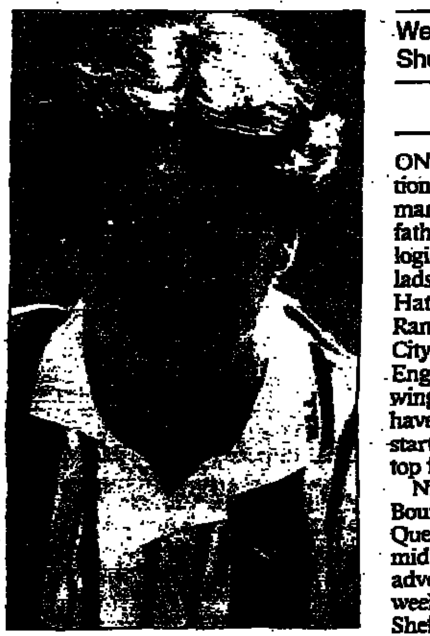
The penalty kick, which Pressley converted to decide the game, was also conceded by Goram. He was booked for that foul and could later have received a second yellow card for a small fracas with Easton. All in all, the goalkeeper might have thought it a mercy if he had been able to make an early departure from the field.

Goram would surely appreciate a refuge from the headlines about his private life, the rumours about the condition of his knees and the speculation that he may be sold. His performances are not peppered with errors, but he does not seem to be producing the saves that used to baffle crestfallen forwards.

Rangers, though, have wider problems, after buying an expensive side that still looks chaotic. Venom will be added to the criticism now that they have lost the lead in the premier division to Celtic, who beat St Johnstone 2-0 on Saturday. The annual general meeting tomorrow may produce some aggrieved interrogation of the club's leading figures.

Dykstra, the Dundee United goalkeeper, tussles with Negri during Rangers' 2-1 defeat at Tannadice

Efficient Spackman takes defeat in his stride



Hunt: first-half header

West Bromwich Albion 2
Sheffield United 0

By Russell Kempson

ONE of the more awkward transitions in football is from player to manager: from carefree performer to father-figure, motivator and psychological consultant, from one of the lads to hard-nosed gaffer. Ask Mark Hateley, the former England and Rangers centre forward, now at Hull City; ask Chris Waddle, the former England and Sheffield Wednesday winger, now at Burnley. Neither have made the most auspicious of starts since swopping their training-top for a smart suit.

Nigel Spackman, the former Bournemouth, Chelsea, Liverpool, Queens Park Rangers and Rangers midfield player, has yet to face such adversity. Although he is only ten weeks into the job as manager of Sheffield United, in the Nationwide League first division, he has received little but plaudits. Until Saturday, against West Bromwich Albion at The Hawthorns, United had not experienced a league defeat this season.

Spackman, 36, dealt with it quietly and efficiently. "West Brom outbattled us," he said, "and that's the first time it's happened since I took over. They put us under pressure and all credit to them." No bitterness, no histrionics. Having made a few tactical observations and further created a favourable impression, he departed. He could go far.

Unlike Hateley and Waddle, Spackman at least has a solid base on which to build. In a world of hype and hysteria, Bramall Lane is higher up the evolutionary scale than Boothferry Park or Turf Moor and is therefore theoretically closer to realising its potential. Spackman also had the benefit of a year as player-coach and two months as caretaker manager before succeeding Howard Kendall, whereas Hateley and Waddle entered the jungle almost blindfolded. Last season, though, Spackman was a frequent target for the less intellectual among the United supporters.

"I'd never had stick from a crowd before I came and it was disappointing," he recalled. "There was a time I thought I might be better off elsewhere, but I have never walked away from anything in my career."

If not forgotten, it has been forgiven. United have lost only twice in 16 league and cup outings and the fans have become increasingly generous towards their managerial rookie. They have swiftly accepted his more patient, considered style of play — no longer the direct, hit-and-hope ploys of previous regimes — and already speak his name in revered tones.

All sequences have to end and, against West Bromwich, United failed to function at any level. They were not allowed to by determined opponents and lacked the ability to think on the hoof. "We've done extremely well and will just have to start again," David Holdsworth, the central defender, said. "Now that's out of the way, we'll learn from it and move on."

Hunt gave West Bromwich a seventh-minute lead, nodding in Kilbane's cross after Holdsworth had slipped over, and Hughes, a substitute, settled the issue with a low shot with two minutes left. With each side fielding five-man midfields, the rest of the game was a congested affair of no particular merit. Ray Harford, the West Bromwich manager, could barely raise a smile, but then he rarely does, anyway.

It is unlikely that Spackman could be so morose, even when it all goes wrong — as, at times, it surely will. He has cleared the first hurdle, the jump from pupil to paymaster, and is doing quite nicely, thank you.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-5-1): A Miller — P Holmes, D Burgess, P Mardon, D Smith — S Flynn, R Sneekes (sub: S Coldicott, 89min), P Butler, I Hamilton, K Kilbane (sub: L Hughes, 71) — A Hunt
SHEFFIELD UNITED (3-5-2): S Tracey — D Holdsworth, P McGrath, C Tiler — V Borbokis (sub: P Katchouro, 71), D Whitehouse, N Marker, M Patterson, W Quinn — Marcelo (sub: A Scott, 71), J A Fjortoft
Referee: D Orr.

Cheshire derby a very civilised affair

Chester City 1
Macclesfield Town 1

By Christopher Irvine

SO MUCH for seething rivalry. The inaugural Cheshire derby in the Nationwide League was more of a love-in, which was appropriate to two former co-habitees. The Chester chairman handed his Macclesfield counterpart a cut-glass bowl, the only pitch invasion was by Morris dancers and the occasion was aptly marked by a compelling draw.

Like many others, the result satisfied John Vernon, who once sold pies at Macclesfield, but transferred his catering van to Chester when City moved out in 1992. "Chester had two years at Moss Rose and they were a wonderful lot," he said. "Both clubs lived happily together and the supporters of both clubs got used to cheering on one another."

Few Cestrians begrudge the Silkmen their elevation from the Vauxhall Conference, which was denied them in 1995 because the Moss Rose ground — good enough for Chester's two seasons there — was deemed unfit for the Football League. That wrong was righted last season by Macclesfield, whose sweet passing and movement has continued into the third division, where they head their former tenants by two points.

Chester are now ensconsed at the neat Deva Stadium, where one half of the ground is officially in Wales. Until Saturday, a 109-year rivalry with Macclesfield had been restricted to occasional cup meetings. Indeed, Chester's last FA Cup-tie at their nearby former Sealand Road ground, now a DIY store, had been a 3-2 second-round replay defeat of Macclesfield in 1989.

For the few seconds that Macclesfield's defensive guard dropped on Saturday, Chris Priest had space and time to fire in a 25-yard shot that rescued Chester their point after Landon had given Macclesfield a 51st-minute lead with his sixth goal of the season.

CHESTER CITY (4-4-2): R Sieczak — I Jenkins, S Whelan, J Alsford, N Fisher — D Flitcroft, N Richardson, C Priest, R Thomas (sub: S Rimmer, 73min) — G Bennett, R McDonald.
MACCLESFIELD TOWN (4-4-2): R Price — D Tinson, E Sodje, S Payne, N Howarth — N Sorvel, S Wood, M Cooper, S Whittaker — R Irving (sub: P Power, 70), J Askey (sub: R Landon, 37).
Referee: E Wolstenholme

Glamour eludes McGranaghan

By Walter Gammie

DANNY McGRANAGHAN had no doubt which club he wanted in the draw for the first round of the FA Cup. "Fulham," the Camberley Town manager said. "They're the glamour club of the moment. They've got to be the big attraction."

Having seen his team perform a feat of willpower to snatch a 1-1 draw at Billericay Town on Saturday, one was prepared to believe that McGranaghan, who has masterminded a string of surprises in the qualifying rounds, could conjure the perfect ending to his day.

It had looked all over when Camberley, Isthmian League third division to Billericay's first, finally cracked under intense pressure in the 77th minute. Shaun Woods, with Leon Gutzmore, the home side's chief predator, in close attendance, poked a cross from Jon Hooker into his own net. Yet Camberley picked themselves up and drove themselves forward to gain an equaliser, Paul Tipping forcing in a flick-on from Julian Sills.

With one draw ensured, most of the 796 crowd at New Lodge seemed to squeeze into the clubhouse, hanging over the railings of its unusual gallery and urging the hands of the Stan Swannell Memorial Clock above the wide-screen television to the appointed hour for the other draw at 5.15pm.

The preliminaries — a groan went up at having to watch Chelsea's Cup-winning goals again — allowed for a defeaning round of calls for silence. Unsurprisingly, the northern section draw raised barely a stir.

A gentleman scribbling the ties on the back of a brown envelope did tell his companion that Lincoln City v Gainsborough Trinity was a peach of a local derby. It was a fine reward for Ernie Moss and his UniBond League side for beating Halifax Town, the Vauxhall Conference leaders. Added spice to a special weekend for the devoted followers of the game in Lincolnshire was supplied by Lincoln United, the UniBond League first division club, earning an away trip to Walsall.

Come the southern section and ball No 27 — the match programme and announcer ensured that everyone knew what they were looking for — was drawn out as the fifth home tie, to mighty acclaim. Billericay Town or Camberley Town ... versus Gloucester City or Wisbech Town. The crowd reeled away in dismay.

Striking a positive note amid the clearing throng was Rod Moore, the Billericay chairman. "If you can't get a league side and a big money-spinner, the next best is a home tie against another non-league side that's winnable," he said. "Anyway, we've got a score we'd like to settle with Wisbech." A stormy fourth-qualifying round replay defeat two years ago is etched in Billericay minds.

By the time that Fulham emerged — away to Margate — most had already returned to determining whose round it was and debating the small matter of an awkward assignment at Krooner Park in Camberley tomorrow night.

Chris Kinnear, the Margate manager, was, meanwhile, telling the world — and one could just picture the scale of the grin — that "it was the draw everyone wanted". Er, thank you, Chris. I think we knew that.

Lynne Truss, page 32

FA CUP FIRST-ROUND DRAW

NORTHERN SECTION: Notts County v Colwyn Bay; Darlington v Stalybridge Celtic or Solihull Borough; Chesterfield v Northwich Victoria; Hull City v Hednesford Town; Hartlepool United v Macclesfield Town; Chester City v Winsford United; Rochdale v Wrexham; Morecambe v Emley; Ilkeston Town v Boston United; Lincoln City v Gainsborough Trinity; Shrewsbury Town v Grimsby Town; Oldham Athletic v Mansfield Town; Rotherham United v Burnley; Southport v York City; Preston North End v Doncaster Rovers; Carlisle United v Wigan Athletic; Walsall v Lincoln United; Blackpool v Blyth Spartans; Scunthorpe United v Scarborough.

SOUTHERN SECTION: Swansea City v Peterborough United; Sittingbourne or Hereford United v Brighton; Yeovil Town or Hayes Town v Rushden and Diamonds or Boreham Wood; Cheltenham Town v Tiverton Town; Billericay Town or Camberley Town v Gloucester City or Wisbech Town; Bognor Regis Town or Farnborough Town v Dagenham and Redbridge; Hendon v Leyton Orient; Brentford v Colchester United; AFC Bournemouth v Heybridge Swifts; Wycombe Wanderers v Basingstoke Town; Woking v Southend United; Luton Town v Torquay United; Plymouth Argyle v Cambridge United; Exeter City v Northampton Town; Carshalton Athletic v Stevenage Borough; Slough Town v Cardiff City; King's Lynn v Bromsgrove Rovers; Bristol Rovers v Gillingham; Margate v Fulham; Barnet v Watford; Bristol City v Millwall.

Ties to be played weekend of Nov 15

Warnock returns to the three Rs

Southend United 1
Oldham Athletic 1

By Bill Edgar

WITH months of winter toil lying ahead in the Nationwide League second division, these two clubs must have longed to turn their clocks back four years on Saturday night.

Southend United supporters are reminded of the club's exciting first division days under Barry Fry every time they pass the Stan Collymore suite at their Roots Hall Ground, while places among the elite and an FA Cup semi-final, which were Oldham Athletic's in those days, seem a world away.

Oldham's bid to return to the top flight took them back to basics on Saturday as they adopted their own three Rs, putting Reid and Wright on the wings and adding a ruggedness throughout the side which proved unpalatable to the referee, Robert Styles. Steve Redmond, the Oldham defender, was sent off for clattering into Sadi N'diaye three minutes from the end of a first half in which four of his team-mates were booked.

That Oldham had little difficulty in holding on to the half-time score of 1-1, despite being a man short, said much for the organisational powers of their manager, Neil Warnock.

Oldham's pursuit of a first away win in the league for eight months took a knock in the fourteenth minute when they fell behind to a 25-yard shot by Regis Coulbault, who joined Southend from Toulon. They equalised after 34 minutes through a move of just two touches, both right-foot chips, Redmond clearing the home defence and Stuart Barlow clearing the on-rushing goalkeeper, Royce, for his eighth goal of the season.

Southend were awarded a penalty in first-half injury time after Pollitt, the Oldham goalkeeper, fouled Beard, but in the tradition of a club that missed seven spot kicks in succession earlier this decade, Harris had his effort well saved.

SOUTHEND UNITED (4-4-2): S Royce — J Hails (sub: A Thomson, 58min), B Lewis, A Harris, K Dublin — A Clarke (sub: P Gridelet, 64), M Beard, R Coulbault, N Jones — S N'diaye, A Rammell
OLDHAM ATHLETIC (4-4-2): M Pollitt — S Redmond, R Graham, D Hodgson, C Serrant — T Wright (sub: S McNiven, 22), P Rickers, L Duxbury, P Reid (sub: A Hughes, 40) — S Barlow, S McCarthy.
Referee: R Styles.

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ITV's winning formula is antidote to Walker

MATTHEW BOND

◆

TV ACTION REPLAY

Given the mess that Murray Walker regularly makes of his commentary, it seemed a little rich that he should have spent quite so much of yesterday afternoon haranguing the Spanish producer responsible for the television pictures of the European Grand Prix. From the moment that the producer cut away to a helicopter shot just in time to miss Villeneuve's first attempt to overtake Michael Schumacher, the poor chap could do nothing right.

If he concentrated on the two contenders for the world championship, Walker wanted to see what was going on farther down the field. "I do hope the Spanish producer is not going to stay with Schumacher and Villeneuve for the whole race," he said. Heaven forbid that he concentrate on the world championship when there were all those battles for minor places that we could be watching — what a ridiculous idea.

It was no better when the championship was all-but decided. Was Walker grateful for some superb slow-motion replays of Schumacher's desperate last nudge? He was not. "The Spanish producer is apparently content to stick with Villeneuve for the last six laps," Walker noted disapprovingly. Actually, he was not and gave the following five a couple of laps of glory.

Given that the slightest mistake by Villeneuve could have cost him the championship, it was a decision that bordered on the foolhardy, but one that typically went unrewarded by Walker. I wonder what he would have been saying if his beloved Damon Hill was driving a badly damaged car but still needed to finish to win? I bet it wouldn't be: "Let's look at the battle for third."

All this talk of misses would be fine if ITV was infallible, but it isn't — as we so memorably learnt at the Hungaroring, when Hill went into the lead for the first and only time this season . . . about three seconds after ITV had gone for a commercial break. And yesterday it was ITV, not the Spanish producer, that managed to miss Schumacher's potentially crucial second pitstop, as we realised as soon as we returned from the commercials to hear Jim Rosenthal's voice rather than Walker's. After a season of ITV's Formula One coverage, we all know what Rosenthal's voice means — it's videotape time.

As for the idea of Walker being infallible . . . well, how long have you got? During practice on Saturday, Walker surpassed himself. "And the coolest man on the track . . ." he began, as Villeneuve posted his pole-position time, "is Michael Schumacher . . . still in the Ferrari garage . . . having not turned a wheel." Two seconds later, the computer timing system — itself not having the best of afternoons — gave a little electronic hiccup and Schumacher was third. Quite an achievement for a man still in his garage.

Walker and the rest of the ITV team should stop apologising for mistakes that are part and parcel of a spectacle (the contrived finish yesterday was just one of a number this season that make me reluctant to use the word 'sport') that conducts its business at 180mph. Instead, they should concentrate on what they do well. Apart from the commercial breaks, which will always annoy some people, and the hugely embarrassing Hill miss, ITV has had an extremely good first season of Formula One.

It has given Rosenthal a new lease of life, ensured that Walker can put off any talk of retirement for at least another year (he significantly let drop that next season will be his fiftieth year commentating on motor sport) and produced one star — Martin Brundle. He did not have a vintage day yesterday — his trademark saunter down the grid got lost in the crowds and he was uncharacteristically diplomatic about the Schumacher incident — but he has had a great season. Only the offer of a grand-prix drive over the winter would thwart ITV's determination to have him on board next year.

As to whether Formula One has been a commercial success for ITV, we would need an accountant and a contract lawyer to tell us. Average audiences of 4.5 million indicate that its multimillion-pound outlay has brought the core, grand-prix audience — young, aspirational and largely male — from the BBC. Two things must worry the network bosses, though, as they set about making plans to build on that success for next year. First, the biggest audience of the season was almost seven million for the Brazilian Grand Prix, which took place before the full horror of Hill's lack of competitiveness became apparent.

The second came yesterday, with the disappointing display by Jordan, the team that Hill will be racing for next year. Market research by ITV confirms — no doubt to the annoyance of the other British drivers — that Hill's form remains crucial to people's decision to watch or not. If he has picked the wrong team for the second year running, it will be ITV that pays for it.

'I know you don't care — it was small potatoes — but the point is, lives were on the line here on Saturday'

Brickies and Bulls fight to the death

LYNNE TRUSS

"Bourne to Win" it says in fancy iron-work over the impossibly grand gates to Sittingbourne Football Club and, even on a bright October afternoon, with blue sky above, it gives you as much pause on your journey as any "Abandon hope" message might do. "Sittingbourne?" you can't help thinking, your eyes swivelling. "Bourne to Win? Have I missed something?"

The sense of vertigo doesn't end there, either. Beyond these high gates is a huge 8,000-capacity stadium called Central Park, evidently modelled on the Cellnet Riverside Stadium at Middlesbrough. It's all very peculiar. Sittingbourne is in the Dr Marten's League and is towards the bottom of it. The Brickies have lost eight of their 12 league games and their average home crowd is 450. Watching one of their matches in this white-elephant people's palace is like seeing people play ping-pong in the Kremlin. Clearly, if you like your football jazzed up by hubristic complications, this far-flung corner of marshy north Kent is absolutely the place to go.

On Saturday, Sittingbourne played Hereford United for a place in the first round of the FA Cup. The result was a 2-2 draw, the attendance was 1,010 and the replay takes place tomorrow night at Edgar Street. I know you don't care, but that's life. The point is, if this match was small potatoes by *Match of the Day* standards, it was still a highly engaging occasion. Lives were on the line, you see. Inspect the finances of either of these clubs and all you will find is a couple of old trouser buttons and a ball of fluff. And it's no joke for either of them.

Which team deserved most underdog support on Saturday? It was impossible to judge. Their respective hard-luck stories were equally compelling. Sittingbourne once made £6.5 million by selling its town-centre ground, which could have set the club up for life if the building of this ludicrous stadium, now owned by the council, hadn't crippled it. It's 35 years since the Brickies made the first round of the FA Cup. Meanwhile, as for Hereford — well, lead them eyeless in chains if you want an effect more poignant and Miltonic than this.

Hereford, of course, famous for FA Cup giant-slaying, lost the ferocious battle for last seat in the lifeboat at the end of last season. There was a big tussle with Brighton, the league vessel rocked dangerously from side to side and then, on the last day, with a curse and a splash, Hereford sank full fathom five into the Vauxhall Conference. Glug. Since then, apparently, the club has never managed to come up for air. Paying its players has become a custom it reserves for birthdays.

MARC ASPLAND

White elephant of the marshes: Central Park, Sittingbourne, October 25, 1997. Somewhere towards the sun, the home team are playing Hereford United

The Bulls brought 120 fans with them on Saturday and no visible directors. This over-grand setting, with 7,000 ghosts, situated symbolically at the end of a road to nowhere, must have cheered their spirits wonderfully.

It would be marvellous to report, against this background of doom, that the football itself was a revelation, but actually it was quite awful. Sittingbourne's first-half performance was enough to make grown men cry. It's mostly a teenage side and was obviously outclassed in every way, even by Hereford's haircuts.

So, although the Brickies conceded only one goal, they spent the whole half running backwards as if tied by elastic to their own posts, while the Hereford keeper had more uninterrupted thinking time than the average Cistercian monk. For a team sponsored by Medway Galvanising, Sittingbourne seemed curiously un-galvanised themselves.

Yet in the second half, things looked a great deal more lively. Perhaps Medway Galvanising's "hot dip" process had been employed at half-time. Either way, the home fans were immensely cheered up when, at 50 minutes, Trevor Matthewson, the Hereford defender, scored a very beautiful equalising own-goal. It was the sort of goal that you want to watch again (unless you are Matthewson). A heroic aerial lunge, excellent contact with the ball, scoring deep into the bottom left-hand corner. Lovely.

At 56 minutes, the disgraced Matthewson appeared to redeem himself by blocking a goalmouth shot from young Kenny Pavey — but alas, he put the ball directly in the path of Sittingbourne's Mark Miller, who scored. This was much more excitement than we'd bargained for. "The Conference side are in big trouble now!" a Kent Radio chap feverishly reported. The home fans in the South Stand, who had previously leaned in twos and threes on the crush barriers like figures in an architect's drawing, were suddenly transformed into quite a lively football crowd. It was great.

But since you know the final score already, there is no hiding the fact that Hereford equalised, thus ensuring a replay back at home. "For Hereford," I heard someone say, "this is the best result they could have, because they'll make some money from the replay." So it wasn't so bad and, personally, I was relieved. Worried by the thought of those fluffy trouser buttons, I'd have hated to see either side lose. I'm just like that. Too big-hearted. I'm sorry.

The third act of Saturday's drama was the FA Cup first-round draw, but it was odd how few people hung around for it. Somehow they didn't want to know what would happen next. "Are we going to hear the draw?" I fussed, in the directors' box. "Have you got a telly for the draw? When's the draw?" A small radio was produced, but nobody listened to it, though finally the dread word did go round . . . "Brighton", accompanied by hollow laughs. *Brighton*? Hereford's nemesis. The club with no home. The fans with no reputation. The gate with no financial potential. Brighton.

The directors of Sittingbourne performed a collective shrug at the news, just as their Man of the Match, Damien Hodge, came in to collect his bottle of champagne from the sponsor. Margate had drawn Fulham, damn them. They were getting Kevin Keegan. "Give it back outside, Damien," the chairman called to his startled player. "I'll need it for next week." Hodge looked sheepish and went out. As Sigmund Freud once said, there's no such thing as a joke.

SPORTS LETTERS

Keegan and moneymen

From Mr Robert Griffiths

Sir, When will Kevin Keegan face the truth and realise that he is no different from the "moneymen" of football that he enjoys denigrating in his recently-published autobiography? Keegan received a hefty pay-off when he left Newcastle United and will receive more for the book.

Now Keegan has gone to Fulham and joined Mohamed Al Fayed, who is the ultimate football moneyman and who bought Fulham after failing to get the controlling interest in another club. Keegan can look forward to spending millions of someone else's money again and if it ends in failure, he can put this into another money-spinning book.

Keegan should try running a club on a shoestring, where success must be earned and not bought. He should then realise what real graft is. Given the money that Keegan has available, any manager in the second division would be able to gain promotion.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT GRIFFITHS,
3 Llys Dyffryn,
Myddleton Park,
Denbigh,
Denbighshire.

Amazing success of Chinese women athletes

From Mr Conrad Truedson

Sir, The recent world records by Chinese women in athletics have caused much speculation, mostly negative, as to how they can run so fast. John Bryant's defence of Ma Junren's methods (October 23) is a welcome addition.

He points out that China has a huge pool of talent to draw from, with a population of a billion. Surely, he argues, with that and an extensive sports system, as China has, such performances are not impossible. But where are the great male runners? No Chinese male has ever broken 28 minutes for 10,000 metres or 13min 20sec for 5,000 metres, yet their women athletes are running incredibly fast. It makes no sense whatsoever, a point that was brought up in 1993, when a similar explosion of astonishing times occurred. Moreover, all these remarkable times happen only in China. In 1994, there were efforts made to bring some of these phenomenal women to the European circuit. Unfortunately they were "unavailable".

Yours sincerely,
CONRAD TRUEDSON,
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Double act

From Mrs Sara Ansell

Sir, Victoria goes with Albert just as Laurel does with Hardy, but your sailing report (October 22) is wrong when it says the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race boats are finishing their first leg at the Victoria & Albert Basin in Cape Town. Cape Town's famous waterfront is called Victoria and Alfred. Mother and son have separate basins there.

In 1860, Victoria's second son, Alfred, laid the foundation, so to speak, of the harbour when he ceremonially tipped rock into the water for construction of the breakwater.

Yours faithfully,
SARA ANSELL,
Owls House, Potten End,
Berkhamsted,
Hertfordshire.

Unsporting bulge

From Mr Phil Watson

Sir, The answer to Danny Baker's question about the ball being stuffed up an outfielder's jumper by the goalkeeper is that this would be considered "unsporting behaviour" by the referee. An indirect free kick would be awarded to the opponents on the edge of the goal area, after the cautioning of the two miscreants.

Yours faithfully,
PHIL WATSON,
3928 Spruce Hill,
Cedar Falls, Iowa,
United States.
plwatson@cedarnet.org

Referees' strip

From Mr Neil Ward

Sir, The confusion caused by the referee's strip being similar to the hideous away strip worn by Newcastle United at Elland Road last weekend should come as little surprise to most of us. I would like to suggest to the Premiership a solution to this problem. Why not have the match officials always wear the same uniform? I would suggest an entirely black kit would stand out very well. Funnily enough, in the lower divisions they are already using such a system.

Yours etc
NEIL WARD,
13 Courtlands Crescent,
Banstead,
Surrey.

Bias over bowls?

From Mr B.J. Goodchild

Sir, As an armchair devotee of bowls for some years, I was pleased to read Matthew Bond's appreciative article (TV Action Replay, October 20). The fact that there are (if I remember rightly) only two televised tournaments a year may well be due to television sports executives' sharing the widespread impression that bowls is a game for golden oldies and that it lacks excitement. Such a view is wrong on both counts. The tension as a player attempts to draw the shot or drive at the head to save the set or match can be as keen as anywhere in sport.

Perhaps Mr Bond's spotlight will save us having to wait for the advent of multi-channel digital television to enjoy more bowls on the small screen.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY GOODCHILD,
36 Hinton Road,
Wallington,
Surrey.

Sports letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They should include a daytime telephone number. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

Tomorrow: Tiger Woods — preparing to break the $2 million earnings barrier this week

Wednesday: Ireland in the World Cup — preview of the crucial play-off against Belgium

Thursday: Taking Europe by storm — Alan Lee on Manchester's ice hockey team

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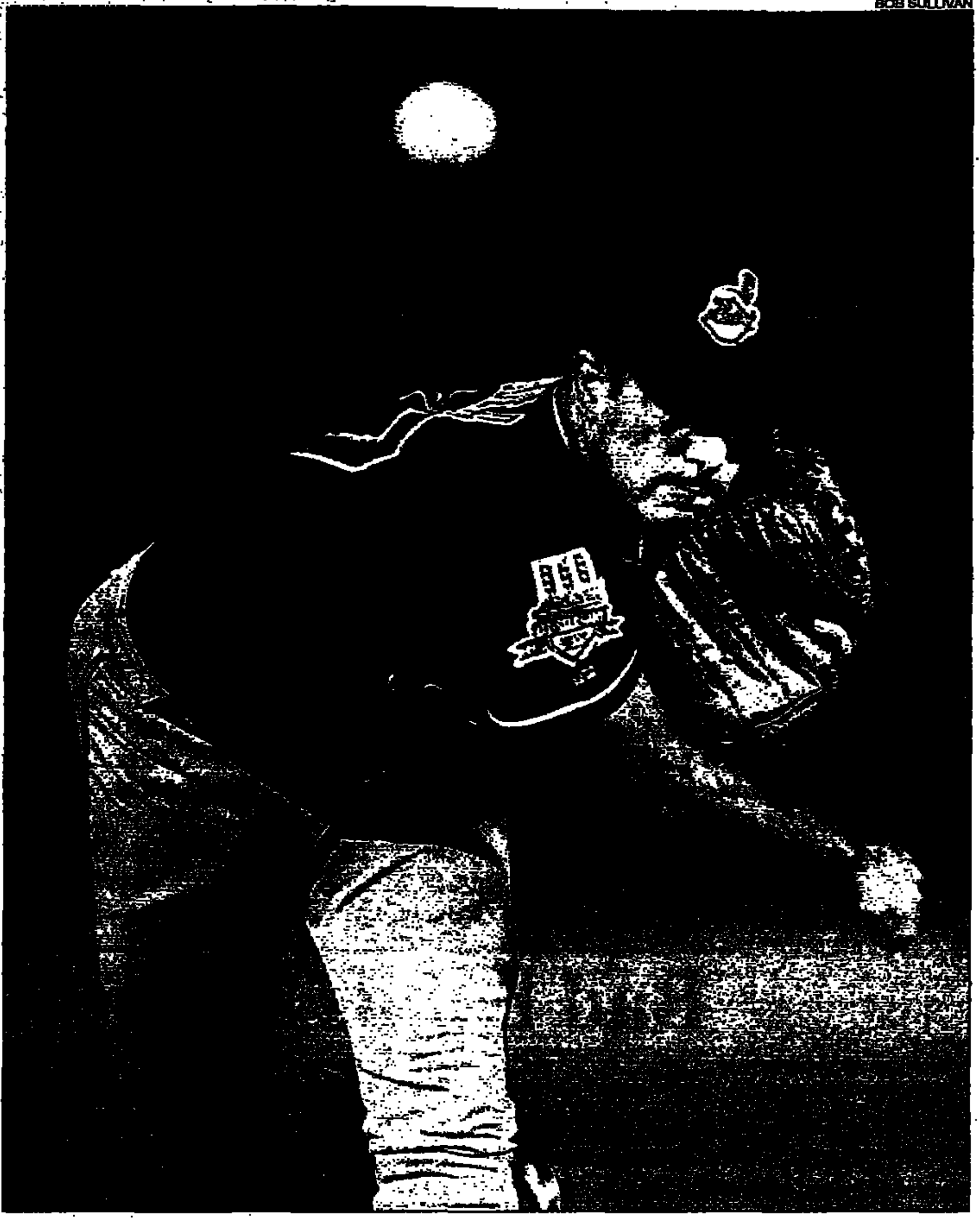
Florida feel the heat as Cleveland take World Series into deciding game

Ogea pitches in to bail out Indians' batters

From Keith Blackmore in Miami

BOB SULLIVAN



Ogea pitches the Indians towards victory in Miami before helping to complete the job as a batter

THE Cleveland Indians pushed the World Series to its limit on Saturday night, beating the Florida Marlins 4-1 in Miami to force a final, deciding game. It is the first time since 1991 that baseball's showpiece has been taken to a seventh game and only the second time in the past decade, but that it should be these teams that did it is only the latest in a long line of surprises this season.

Many believe that neither team should even be in the series. The Marlins, in only their fifth year of existence, did not even win their National League division, finishing nine games behind the perennial powers, the Atlanta Braves. The Indians finished the season with the ninth-best record of the 28 teams in the two leagues. And yet here they both were, the champions, respectively, of National and American Leagues, scrapping for the biggest prize of all.

The series that they have produced has, in many ways, been a disappointment to those living outside Ohio and South Florida, but it has been evenly contested, each side winning in turn through the first six games, and the standard of play has risen appreciably since the low point of game three, played in the frozen air of Jacobs Field, Cleveland.

If game six was perhaps not the most exciting of the series, it was certainly the best played, with the pitchers and fielders obviously all glad to be back in balmy baseball temperatures, and it found another surprising hero: the Indians pitcher, Chad Ogea.

Ogea, 27, had pitched the Indians to victory in game two, but he came to the mound on Saturday knowing it was do or die. The Marlins only needed one more victory to take the series and had the advantage of playing the last two games at home before 67,000 of their own wildly excited fans in Pro Player Stadium.

Until tiring in the sixth, Ogea pitched with great skill, allowing the Marlins only one run and giving them little encouragement, but he made his decisive contribution with the bat.

This was all the more surprising since pitchers from the American League rarely find themselves swinging a bat. Under the controversial designated-hitter rule, their place is taken by a specialist batter who does not field. Ogea had virtually no experience of hitting in the Major Leagues.

When he came to the plate in the second inning, his opposite number, Kevin Brown, the ace of the Florida pitching staff, was in a spot of bother: the bases were loaded and only one man was out. At least, he must have thought, he could get Ogea out quickly and easily.

Ogea, though, confounded expectations by singling hard down the rightfield line. It was his first Major League hit and it drove in two runs. Later he admitted that he had followed his father's advice. "He told me, swing hard at the ball in case you hit it."

As it turned out, that would have been enough to defeat the Marlins, who were profligate, failing to drive in ten runners from scoring positions, but Ogea was not to know that then and so he gave himself another hit in the fifth inning, going on to score his team's fourth and final run on a sacrifice by Manny Ramirez, who had driven in the third run, too.

If the Marlins were going to rally, their chance came in the sixth. Ogea had gone and two men were on the bases with two out and Charles Johnson was coming up to bat. Johnson rifled a low, scudding shot towards left field only to see Omar Vizquel, the Indians shortstop, dive full length to his right, catch the ball, stand and throw him out by half a step at first base. It was a dazzling play, preventing two runs from scoring and killing the inning.

The Marlins' last hope expired in the seventh. Bobby Bonilla, their loquacious but error-prone third baseman, came up with the bases loaded and two men out. He flied tamely to centre field and the game was as good as over.

When it finally was, Mike Hargrove, the Indians manager, promptly announced that he was removing Charles Nagy, a veteran, from his position as the starter for game seven, handing the responsibility to 21-year-old Jaret Wright, the winner of game four. It will be a heavy burden. Cleveland last won the championship in 1948, a year before even Hargrove, whose 48th birthday it was yesterday, was born.

As game six was being played, much was being made of the fact that Denver airport had been closed by a blizzard that prevented the Denver Broncos football team from leaving for a game in Buffalo. In the warmth of Miami, such news seemed vaguely ridiculous, but it was noted that had the Colorado Rockies baseball team come as far and as fast as the Marlins, who joined the National League at the same time they did, game six would have been in Denver and would certainly have been buried under the snow. So much for the Boys of Summer.

GAME SIX DETAILS

Inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Runs	Hits	Errors
Cleveland	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	7	0
Florida	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	8	0

Winning pitcher: Chad Ogea. Losing pitcher: Kevin Brown. Save: Jose Mesa.

Series level at 3-3. The deciding game will be televised live by Channel 5.

PASSING THE BUCK

INSIDE THE BUSINESS OF SPORT

Nike ready to just do kit deal with FA

So Nike is going to make the England kit?

Probably. It is leading the race to get the new contract from the Football Association, with the likes of Adidas, Admiral, Pony, Reebok and Umbro, the kit-makers at present, also in the running. A decision is expected in the next couple of weeks.

Does this mean Hoddle's boys will "just do it" in the World Cup next summer?

No. The seven-year Umbro deal runs until summer 1999.

So why is the FA so keen to tie up a deal now?

It takes about 18 months to approve designs and order kits for a changeover. Also, the FA is keen to capitalise on England's qualification for the World Cup finals to increase the amount of money that it can get from a kit deal.

And Nike is keen to break into football?

Or soccer as the Americans call it, Nike being based in Oregon on the west coast of the United States. Nike already has basketball, athletics and tennis sewn up and also struck a great deal with Tiger Woods in golf. It sees soccer as a key element in its global strategy.

As they know down at Highbury.

Nike started by signing up Ian Wright five years ago and then struck a deal with Arsenal that was so lucrative that it upped the ante for all the kit deals in the FA Carling Premiership.

How much is it worth, then?

A cool £40 million over seven years.

So the rumours about a £150 million deal for England are true?

As one FA insider put it: "If Nike has offered £150 million, we'd have bitten their hand off." A four-year deal for £50 million is nearer the mark.

But didn't Nike pay £80 million to sponsor US Soccer and £130 million for the Brazil kit?

Those deals are not quite what they seem. The American deal and the ten-year Brazil contract are for much more than shirt sponsorship. Nike is in charge of marketing the leisurewear for the football federations and, in Brazil's case, arranges all the team's friendly matches and keeps the television revenue from those games.

And the FA would not give that much control to Nike?

Absolutely not. The FA is pretty good at negotiating its own friendlies and television deals, thank you very much.

What does this all mean for Umbro?

It is not good news at all. Umbro has thrived on the back of two of the best-selling kits in football — England and Manchester United.

So bye-bye Umbro?

It still has Manchester United and has been around for more than 60 years. Umbro points out that every time Brazil has won the World Cup, it has done so in Umbro kit. If it is to be an Umbro wearer winning this World Cup, England would be the hot favourite.

Jason Nissé

Teenagers share in game's growing pains

By Simon Wilde

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

BEING a young, promising basketball player is an uncertain business if you are planning on beating a path to the big time. Does your school or club have facilities good enough to help you? Have you even progressed that far? You may possess the build of a skyscraper, but not have got beyond scrimmaging in the street. The salaries on offer in the National Basketball Association (NBA) are the stuff of fantasies — and likely to stay that way.

The Wella Inter Area schools tournament, held at Lilleshall over the past three days, is one of the best ways to get noticed — and for national age-group coaches to notice you. More than 150 of the best boys and girls under the age of 16 pounded the courts and put their minds and bodies under new degrees of stress in the hope of earning international action.

"When they are this age, the real purpose is to identify future talent," Chris Morgan, the head coach of the cadet boys, who has been working in this area of the sport for 20 years, said. "A few days ago, we found a lad who is 6ft 8in. He is 14 years old. He is too young to take part here at Lilleshall, but we will fast-track him into his club in London and he can come and train with us.

"He may struggle at first, but the other boys must help him. He is the sort of boy we need. It is a big problem finding the big boys early enough." In the United States and other countries, of course, they start seriously working on them from a much younger age.

One of Morgan's earliest tasks after the conclusion of the tournament, which involved teams from four regions, is to select a side to take part in the home nations' competition next March. In an ambitious programme, England also intend to hold a series of training camps and compete in, or stage, a number of other events before the European qualifying tournament next August.

But selection for a national squad is far from the end of hardship. Funding is desperately scarce at this level, despite help from the Sports Council, and every event is liable to become a financial hand-to-mouth operation.

Every competitor was required to provide £50 towards the cost of going to Lilleshall; every England training session can cost another £30. Trips overseas are even more expensive, which all adds up to a substantial annual bill in a sport that claims to be the most "democratic" — that is, affordable — of all.

These are outgoings that some simply cannot meet, placing them in danger of dropping out of the sport, and the catch-22 is that the more successful a team is, the more costly the process becomes. Morgan remembers one side he was involved with who did so well that they almost put themselves, their friends and associates out of pocket trying to fund their winning habit. Far from discovering about riches, one of the earliest things a talented basketball player finds out about is fund-raising, although in this — for some reason — the girls prove better than the boys. "Sometimes you find yourself sucked into fund-raising activities when what you should be doing is helping them improve their game," Morgan said.

Providing the best youngsters with good competition is another constant worry, although the links between the English Schools Basketball Association — which was founded 40 years ago — and the English Basketball Association are growing, facilitating movement into the highest ranks. Participation is growing on the back of television coverage of the NBA, but good coaches are in short supply.

The sport's strength remains in the urban areas. "There are pockets of development around the country," Terry Webb, national coach to the England girls, said. "We need to expand, although mini-basketball, which is based in Hertfordshire and has less emphasis on competition, is starting to make an impact. The tournament here is our chance to persuade the boys and girls to play at international level — to sell the game to them and their parents."

The Midlands won the boys' under-16 competition, North the girls' under-16 and South East the boys' and girls' under-15s.

Michael Feely, of Midlands under-16s, gets past the South East opposition. Photograph: Paul Rogers

CRICKET

Pakistan primed to wrap up Test series

By Our Sports Staff

PAT SYMCOX'S valiant efforts with the bat could not stop Pakistan taking a decisive grip on the third and final Test against South Africa in Faisalabad yesterday. Pakistan were chasing a modest 146 runs for victory and were four without loss in their second innings when bad light ended the third day's play at the Iqbal Stadium.

Symcox, the off spinner, who made an obstinate 81 in the first innings, was in an equally combative mood in the second as he made 55, helped by Lance Klusener, who hit 38 in a total of 214, but the spin of Mushtaq Ahmed, four for 57, and Saqlain Mushtaq, three for 36, gave Pakistan the upper hand. As long as bad weather does not intervene again, the hosts should wrap up the three-match series today. The first two Tests ended in draws.

South Africa, resuming on 21 for two, lost Brian McMillan and Daryll Cullinan in quick succession to the leg spin of Mushtaq. Hansie Cronje, the captain, and Symcox batted purposefully for more than an hour and put on 43 for the fifth wicket, with the latter completing his second fifty of the match with seven fours and a six, before falling to Saqlain, the off spinner.

Waqar Younis struck with successive balls as first Cronje was caught by Azhar Mahmood at square leg for 21 and then Dave Richardson, the wicketkeeper, fell leg-before. Klusener avoided the hat-trick before striking two sixes and three fours in his 26-ball innings, but his dismissal, leg-before to Saqlain, on the stroke of tea heralded the end of the South African resistance.

Allan Donald was bowled for eight and, when Paul Adams was last man out, Shaun Pollock was left undefeated on 21. Aamir Sohail was on nought and Ali Naqvi four when play finished for the day.

☐ New Zealand collapsed to their second consecutive defeat on their tour of Australia yesterday, losing a limited-overs match to Queensland in Cairns. The tourists were dismissed for 125 in reply to the home side's 252 for eight from their 50 overs. New Zealand's loss came just 24 hours after they had been beaten by an innings and 127 runs in a four-day match against Queensland.

When asked to describe his team's performance, Stephen Fleming, the New Zealand captain, said it was "pathetic" and predicted that his team would struggle in the Test series that starts in Brisbane on November 7.

Scoreboard, page 38

ICE HOCKEY

Nienhuis pounces to keep Panthers on top

THE Superleague continues to provide capacity crowds with closely-fought games (Norman de Mesquita writes). Both Saturday's fixtures ended in a 2-1 win for the home side — Ayr Scottish Eagles over Basingstoke Bison and Nottingham Panthers over Newcastle Cobras.

Ayr got off to a quick start, with Mark Woolf finishing off a three-way play with Mark Montanari and Dino Bauba in the second minute. Just under three minutes later, Karry Biette scored the second and the crowd must have thought that they were in for a high-scoring contest, particularly as it was only another ten seconds before Jamie Black pulled one back for the Bison.

That, however, was the end of scoring, with the two goaltenders, Rob Dopson and Sonny Mignacca, excelling.

It took a little longer for the goals to come in Nottingham, where Jamie Leach gave the Panthers the lead after 16 minutes. Brett Stewart equalised before Kraig Nienhuis restored Nottingham's lead. The Panthers retain top spot on eight points, with the Eagles a point behind but with a game in hand.

In the semi-finals of the Benson and Hedges Plate, Telford Tigers beat Peterborough Pirates 8-4 and Paisley Pirates overcame Slough Jets 6-4 in their first-leg games.

Results, page 38

CYCLING

Dangerfield triumphs again in record time

STUART DANGERFIELD had ample reward yesterday for ignoring earlier disappointments this season with his fifth national hill climb championship, the past three of which have been consecutive (Peter Bryan writes).

At times, he had wondered whether he was the forgotten man of British cycling when he failed to gain selection for the world time-trial championship alongside Chris Boardman or was named for other big international events, only to be told that they were cancelled.

Yesterday, as the curtain came down on the 1997 time-trial programme on the 1,700-metre ascent of Rowsley Bar, Derbyshire, Dangerfield set a new hill record of 5min 12.84sec on a climb that varied in gradient between 1:8 and 1:5.

He sprinted in, last man to start of the 120 entry, to beat Jim Henderson, an engineering post graduate at Oxford, who had until then recorded the best time of 5min 19.29sec. Henderson was reckoned to have established a 2sec advantage over Dangerfield at the halfway point.

The champion said: "I had planned to take the first section riding within myself and then go flat out on the tougher approach to the finish. It worked."

On Saturday, Henderson won the British Universities hill climb title near Baslow.

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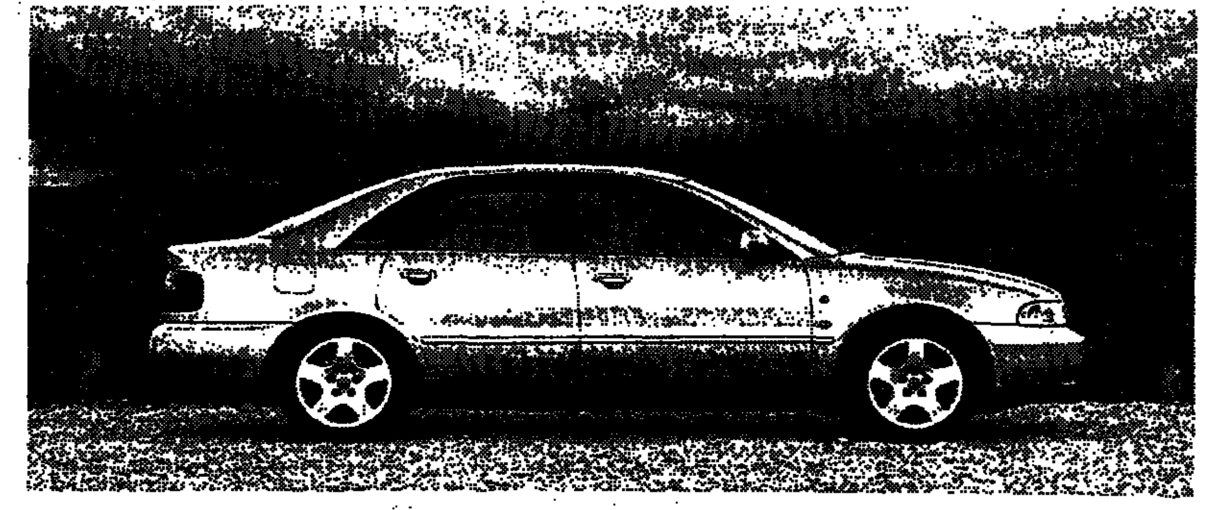

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RUGBY UNION

Dwyer's gamble improves options for Woodward

Leicester	33
Bath	22

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THIS is what Clive Woodward came to Welford Road on Saturday to see: England-qualified players offering convincing evidence of skill, aggression and confidence. That last quality will be uppermost in Woodward's mind when the England coach and his management colleagues choose the XV to play Australia next month and, in too many games this season, it has appeared absent.

Here, against their greatest domestic rivals, after swelling criticism of their collective form, the Leicester tight forwards were dominant. Behind them, the unlikely hinge provided by Fiji and South Africa allowed Will Greenwood to take a significant step back towards his British Isles form and for Austin Healey to suggest that England may find a role for him other than at scrum half.

As a technical exercise, it was deeply flawed, but, as a sporting contest, few in the crowd of 14,000 would have complained. It was a triumph for Leicester and for Bob Dwyer, their coach, who took the calculated gamble to field Waisale Serevi at scrum half in an Allied Dunbar Premiership match and watched him spill ten points in 21 minutes — yet the gamble paid off twofold.

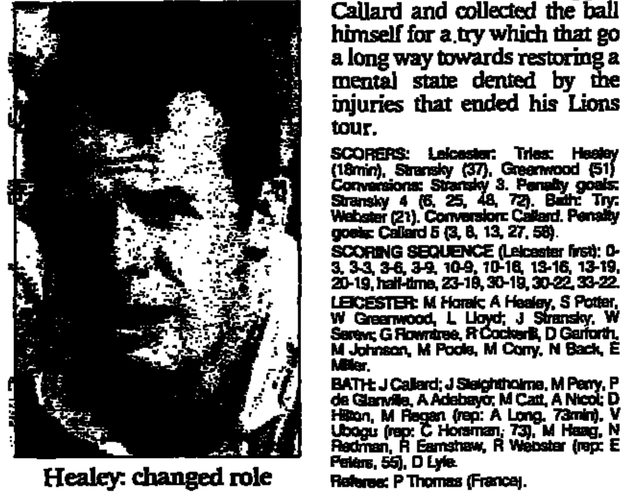
Serevi, for all his occasional bursts of pace, is a playmaker. He has to get his hands on the ball at half back and create doubt in the minds of opponents and if he has defensive weaknesses — and he has — then his colleagues must cover them. Leicester played him at *scrum half in a second-XV* match earlier in the week and always intended to repeat the tactic against Bath, even at the expense of moving an England and Lions scrum half to the wing.

Yet Healey, in the position where he first attracted attention for Waterloo and Orrell, produced a minor masterpiece. His reading of the game was outstanding, he scored one delightful try and saved another, he defended against Adedayo Adebayo as well as anyone has this season and, more to the point, he has cast off dull care: "Maybe I was too aware about losing my England place," Healey said. "Now I'm looking to enjoy myself — if everything is do or die, your head explodes."

With Healey, it is more likely to be temper that explodes and, after scoring his try, he could not resist kicking the ball in the vague direction of his club coaches in the stand, but maybe Dwyer knows his man better than Healey would admit: "I thought Austin had a stormer and I don't think it will have done his England chances any harm," Dwyer said.

Woodward has already acknowledged that he is short of wings, thus the duel between Adebayo and Healey took on even greater significance. Healey, who brought down Adebayo a yard short after de Glanville's powerful break, even turned up on the left side to score Leicester's first try, his speed and sidestep taking him past Regan, Sleightholme and Earnshaw.

In that same first quarter, though, Serevi lapsed twice behind scrums on his own line: seeking to kick clear, he miscued twice, which gave Bath first a penalty and then Webster a converted try. Dwyer wanted any defensive kicking to be done by the right-footed Stransky or the left-footed Horak, but it was the experienced Stransky who helped turn Serevi into gold, buying time for the Fijian to settle into the pivotal position and then revelling in the speed of his pass.



Healey: changed role

Bath, meanwhile, were more conventional: they worked on ways to ensure they always had the lineout throw — Leicester took only one first-half lineout — and Catt constantly asked questions of the defence. The response from Leicester was, too frequently, a grumble and if the sinbin is ever introduced, then Cockerill will be a prime candidate for it: the hooker's antics when the ball is dead frequently overstep the mark and negate his fine work about the field, which, on the day, outshone that of Regan, whose throwing to the back of the lineout was again in question.

However, at the interval Leicester led by a point thanks to the try which carried Stransky to 100 points for the season. Poole, Corry and Johnson ran the tapped penalty and Serevi's flick to the short side gave Stransky room to score. Within 11 minutes of the interval, that advantage had been cemented, largely by the angled run taken by Greenwood behind a scrum: he cut past the first line of defence, chipped Callard and collected the ball himself for a try which that go a long way towards restoring a mental state dented by the injuries that ended his Lions tour.

SCORERS: Leicester: Tries: Healey (18min), Stransky (37), Greenwood (51). Conversions: Stransky 3. Penalty goals: Stransky 4 (6, 25, 48, 72). Bath: Try: Webster (21). Conversion: Callard. Penalty goals: Callard 5 (3, 8, 13, 27, 58).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Leicester first): 0-3, 3-3, 3-6, 3-9, 10-9, 10-16, 13-16, 13-19, 20-19, half-time, 23-19, 30-19, 30-22, 33-22.

LEICESTER: M Horak; A Healey, S Potter, W Greenwood, L Lloyd; J Stransky, W Serevi; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, M Johnson, M Poole, M Corry, N Back, E Miller.

BATH: J Callard; J Sleightholme, M Perry, P de Glanville, A Adebayo; M Catt, A Nicol; D Hilton, M Regan (rep: A Long, 73min), V Ubogu (rep: C Horsman, 73), M Haag, N Redman, R Earnshaw, R Webster (rep: E Peters, 55), D Lyle.

Referee: P Thomas (France).

LAURENCE GRIFFITHS / ALLSPORT

Perry, the Bath centre, tries to charge through a dogged Leicester defence at Welford Road but is sent crashing

Bad habits haunt Harlequins

Harlequins	52
Sale	41

By Mark Souster

THE changing of the old guard continues apace at The Stoop. Will Carling was dropped for the first time by Harlequins, indeed for the first time by anybody since the British Isles tour to New Zealand in 1993, but that did not stop his side bringing to an end a run of three consecutive defeats and, by coincidence, three at the hands of Sale.

However while the personnel change, the old habits do not. The usual Stoop fare was provided: a mixture of the sublime and the ridiculous, flowing attack intermingled with inept defence and worrying lapses in concentration. It was a bit like their performance at Richmond last week, but at least on this occasion they were able to hold on.

Whatever interpretation Andy Keast, the Harlequins director of rugby, put on the match, the fact remains that there was something less than satisfying about the whole affair, despite 12 tries and 93 points.

Yes, it was entertaining and some of the speed of movement from both sides was excellent, as was the goal-kicking of Rob Liley and Shane Howarth, who between them missed only one kick at goal from 15 attempts. Yes, there was commitment; but there was no tension. Given that Sale were playing catch-up rugby from the half-hour, it was all rather superficial.

Keast saw it differently, content to ignore the schoolboy quality of some of the defending. "We were not in a crisis [after those three defeats], but a down period," he said. "It takes a good bunch of players to play out of it by playing rugby rather than sticking it up their jumper. The pace and intensity of a game like that will leave spaces and, credit to Sale, they are a class side."

Daren O'Leary certainly exploited the space, scoring two tries — his 77th and 78th in only 100 appearances for the club — and also dropping a goal for good measure. However, the defensive frailties that have denied him a full cap so far were also evident, not least when Beim danced around him for Sale's opening try after 12 minutes.

Tulsen Tollett, starting his first full league game in preference to Carling, who did appear as a second-half replacement, also found himself pulled out of position, but for now that can be put down to his background with the London Broncos rugby league team. In attack, he looked a real livewire.

John Mitchell, the Sale coach, will not be happy that two of Harlequins' tries came directly from set-pieces, with Jenkins and Leach waltzing in unchallenged from the 22, nor the ease with which the home forwards were *able to drive* their way through the middle.

Having led 10-7 after 25 minutes, Sale were then undone by four tries in 12 bewildering minutes before half-time that left them trailing 35-17. They reduced the deficit to 11 points at one stage, but good attacking positions were wasted by the slow delivery of the final pass.

SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: O'Leary 2 (28 min, 31), Jenkins (16), Leach (36), Bromley (40), Wood (66), Tollett (74). Conversions: Liley 7. Dropped goal: O'Leary (42). Sale: Tries: Beim (12), Yates (34), Moore (49), Sanderson (71), Ellis (75). Conversions: Howarth 5. Penalty goals: Howarth (25, 58).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Harlequins first): 0-7, 7-7, 7-10, 14-10, 21-10, 21-17, 28-17, 35-17 (half-time) 38-17, 38-24, 38-27, 45-27, 45-34, 52-34, 52-41.

HARLEQUINS: S Stewart; D O'Leary, T Tollett, J Ngauamo (rep: J Keyter, 78min), S Bromley (rep: W Carling, 52); R Liley, H Harries; M Cuttitta, K Wood, J Leonard, G Llewellyn (rep: T Collier, 66), W Davison, R Jenkins, I Pickup, A Leach.

SALE: S Howarth; M Moore, C Yates (rep: J Mallinder, 48), A Hadley, T Beim (rep: K Ellis, 59); S Mannix, R Smith; P Winstanley, S Diamond, M Driver, D Baldwin, S Raiwalui, D Erskine, P Sanderson, C Vyvyan.

Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset).

Referee does his bit towards day of stop-start drudgery

London Scottish	15
Bedford	22

By Barney Spender

NEARLY 3,000 people turned up to the Athletic Ground on Saturday and every one of them had a case for asking for his or her money back. A match between two top sides in the second division on a crisp and sunny afternoon should have been something to savour, especially as their encounter at Bedford five *weeks ago conjured up an* exciting and flowing game with more than 80 points on the scoreboard.

Instead, the fans were subjected to 80 minutes of negative, error-strewn tedium, not *helped by some pedantic and* occasionally puzzling whistling from John Pearson, a referee with a good reputation but whose middle name certainly is not Continuity.

The truth is that a game that *is allowed to flow and develop* is more enjoyable to players and spectators alike and, in the new professional age, entertainment in rugby is a *class-one priority*.

For all that, Bedford just about deserved a win that gave them a double over their likeliest challengers and breathing space at the top of the table. If they do not shoot themselves in the foot, as they did at the end of last season, then they ought to win automatic promotion.

"It wasn't very attractive rugby from Bedford, but it was league-winning rugby in *a tight game," John Steele, the* London Scottish coach, said. "They've got some very experienced heads and they played a shrewd game. They made very few mistakes and simply waited for us to give away the penalties. We lacked that cohesive experience."

The Exiles enjoyed the better of the first half, shading the lineouts and constantly forcing Bedford back on their heels via the ranging boot of *Cameron, their New Zealand* fly half, but they still trailed 7-3 at the break. Surprisingly, however, they never gave Conan Sharman, their blisteringly *quick left wing*, a chance to repeat the hat-trick of tries that he scored in the corresponding game last month.

Jackson's close-range try brought London Scottish back into the game, but a series of penalties gave *Mike Rayer* the chance to add to his first-half try and extend the Bedford lead. Mick Watson went over for the home side in the last minute, but, by then, the crowd was drifting into the bar to watch the Currie Cup final and a touch of continuity.

SCORERS: London Scottish: Tries: Jackson (48min), Watson (79). Conversion: McAusland. Dropped goal: Cameron (11). Bedford: Try: Rayer (30). Conversion: Rayer. Penalty goals: Rayer (5, 42, 52, 70, 76).

SCORING SEQUENCE (London Scottish first): 3-0, 3-7 (half-time), 3-10, 8-10, 8-15, 8-15, 8-19, 8-22, 15-22.

LONDON SCOTTISH: I McAusland; G Thompson, E Rayner, R Eriksson, C Sharman; J Cameron, S Cook; P Johnstone, J Allan, J Kelly, E Jones, A Jackson, C Tarbuck, S Holmes, M Watson.

BEDFORD: M Rayer; R Underwood, B Whetstone, A Murdoch, R Pfeugler; P Turner, A Kardooni; N Hatley, R Kirke, D Rinkins, S Murray, J Cullen (rep: S Platford, 69min), R Winters, J Forster, J Paramore.

Referee: J Pearson.

Exiles excel in lap of luxury

Worcester	13
London Welsh	28

By Peter Bills

NOT even ten years as a coach in rugby league had prepared Clive Griffiths for Saturday, but the glint in his eye, his enthusiasm, was not for the result that sent his Exiles team *to the top of the Jewson* National League first division. It was too early in the season to get too optimistic about that.

What excited Griffiths was the magnificence of Worcester's facilities. "A real eye-opener, there isn't anything to match it anywhere in rugby league," he said. "Three floodlit training pitches and the biggest indoor training facility in Europe. It is simply marvellous and I am green with envy."

Ironically, Les Cusworth, the Worcester director of rugby, expressed an admiration bordering on envy for London Welsh's strong former rugby league men — Andy Currier, Scott Roskell and Rowland Phillips — who were instrumental in fashioning this fine performance. Cusworth knows that he must buy in new players to strengthen his squad for promotion.

"They had more experience, were more streetwise than us," he said, "and it was principally due to players like Currier *and Phillips, key players in* key positions."

This was rugby played in the great old way, even amid probably the finest facilities at any British rugby club. Bath would drool with envy at the space and modern structures, yet Worcester's triumph is to have retained the heart and soul — the "feel" — of a rugby club, a quality that many of the biggest outfits have lost.

Like countless others, London Welsh can only dream of the £6 million project in which Worcester are involved, but nonetheless Griffiths was given £500,000 over two years for team strengthening and he has bought wisely. Currier's powerful running gave the home defence a torrid afternoon as he made one try and scored two. Edwards, unwanted at Saracens, and Craig Raymond were key men at half back and outside them there was pace, creativity and a cutting edge throughout the back line. Their play was was a credit to a once-great club and John *Taylor, a British Lions in 1971* and one who played in their golden age in the Seventies, was watching, nodding his approval.

SCORERS: Worcester: Try: Jenner (48min). Conversion: Smith. Penalty goals: Smith (11, 38). London Welsh: Tries: Currier (7, 42), Giraud (40). Conversions: Craig Raymond (2). Penalty goals: Raymond (52, 69). Dropped goal (76).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Worcester first): 0-7, 3-7, 6-7, 6-12 (half-time), 6-19, 13-19, 13-22, 13-25, 13-28.

WORCESTER: T Smith; B Evans, D Hughes, R Tomlinson, P Holford; G Harwood (rep: G Blakeway, 67min), B Fenley; M Linnett (rep: N Lyman, 73), G Houston (rep: D Bell, 60), P Mitchell, Chris Raymond (rep: P Miles, 73), S Lloyd, J Jenner, J Johal (rep: K Hickey, 45), G Clark.

LONDON WELSH: P Shaw; J Reynolds, A Currier, S Roskell, M Giraud; Craig Raymond, D Edwards; G Holmes (rep: S Emmes, 67), A Harbinson, R Thomas, A Johansen, G Sage, G Peacock (rep: D Muckalt, 69), L Jones, R Phillips.

Referee: D Matthews (RFU).

Llewellyn breathes fresh life back into Neath

Neath	52
Bridgend	10

By Gerald Davies

NEATH have had the worst possible start to the season. Until Saturday, they had not won a match either on the domestic front or on the broader canvas of the European Conference.

This was the club, a few years ago, that cut a swath through everything that came in its path. Professionalism has done no favours for Neath and their homegrown talent, nurtured over time, was soon lured away to more lucrative fields elsewhere; loyalty was the first of rugby's many codes of behaviour to disappear.

One of these itinerant players has returned on a monthly loan. Glyn Llewellyn, surplus to requirements at Harlequins, came back a week ago and made such a difference, in attitude as much as presence, that Neath came close to stealing a win against Swansea, the present league leaders. On Saturday, elevated to the role of captain in the absence of Geraint Evans, Llewellyn was influential in ensuring that Neath recorded a handsome and thoroughly deserved victory against Bridgend, who hitherto had not lost a match in the championship.

Like a mother hen, Llewellyn rose prominently above everyone in lineout, ruck and maul. Players were drawn to him as they rushed forward, each shepherding the other before setting free in a frantic dash for the line — very much, in fact, like the Neath of old.

In this fashion — their forwards chasing the ball with insatiable appetite, putting close pressure under Bridgend's posts — they set up the chance to send the ball wide for the first of Bernard's tries on the left wing. This was of the stuff that once made Neath famous and feared. Lyn Jones was their flanker in those days, Ron Waldron was their coach. Jones is now their coach, Waldron the team manager. Their message that players should repeat what was once so successful is getting through.

Llewellyn on loan

Yet try as Neath might, no more tries came in the first half. Price kicked three penalty goals to Cull's one. The signs, however, were ominously on the wall for the visitors, who hardly looked like penetrating a rigid Neath defence. Only Greenaway, with his storming runs, caused the occasional threat.

There were clear signs of promise from Neath. Anyone taking the first part of the season as an indication of their future prospects is in for a sharp awakening. The Gnoll could well prove a ground from which clubs will be hard-pressed to gain any points. The team still lack a cutting edge in midfield, but they make up for this in the collective effort that was always their strongest quality.

Bennett, Boobyer and Lee Jones are as tough as they come in the back row, Horgan is a terrier at scrum half, while Price, on the evidence of Saturday's 22 points, looked a sure-footed place-kicker. To these the visitors had no answer and the home team ran away with the game after the interval. Greenaway's solo try was Bridgend's only response to the five tries and the penalty that Neath ran up.

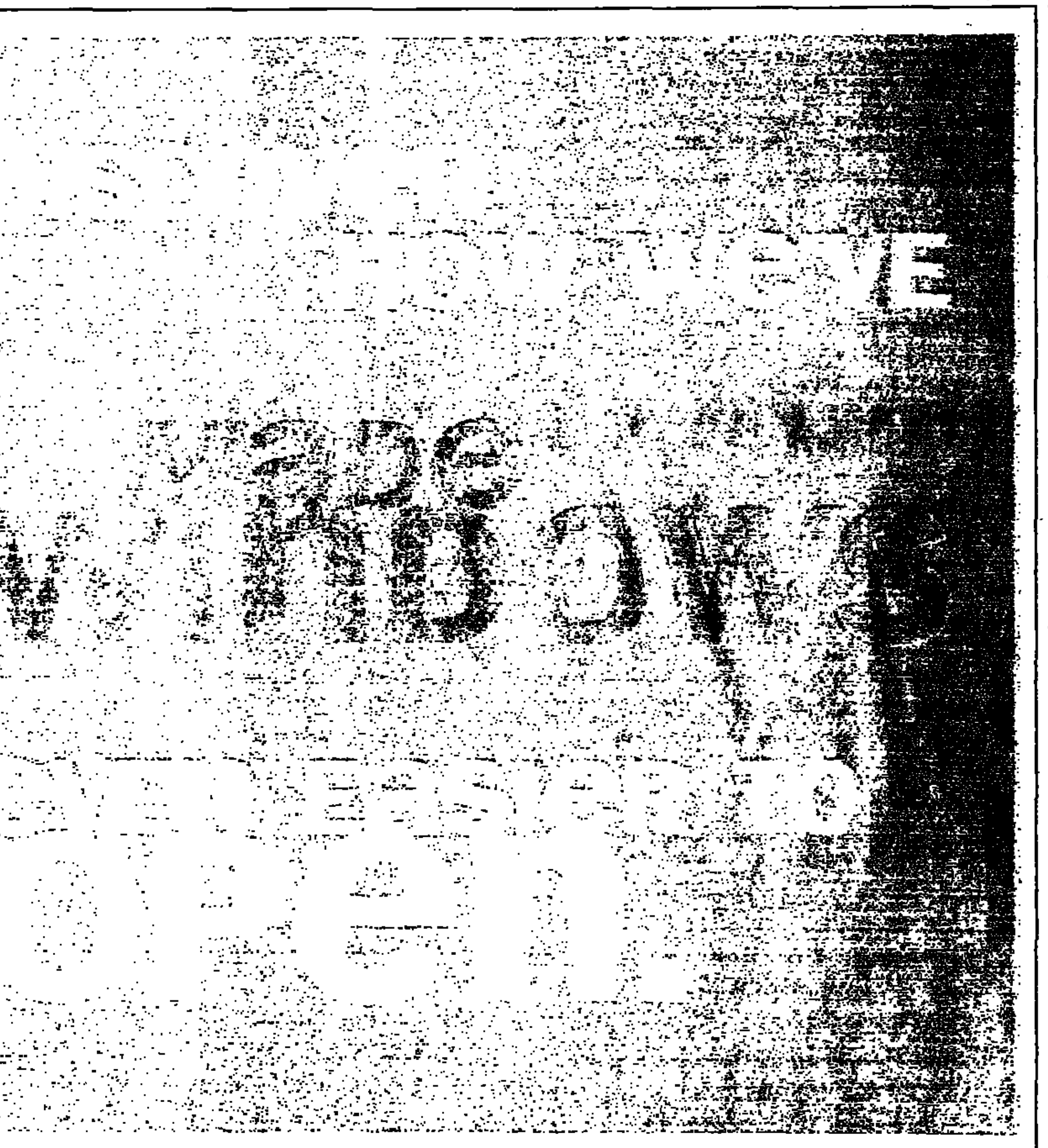
SCORERS: Neath: Tries: Bernard 3 (2, 53, 68), Boobyer (43), M Evans (73), Martin (80). Conversions: Price 5. Penalties: Price 4 (13, 17, 40, 51). Bridgend: Try: Greenaway (67). Conversion: Lewis. Penalty: Cull (5).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Neath first): 7-0, 7-3, 10-3, 13-3, 16-3 half-time, 23-3, 26-3, 33-3, 33-10, 38-10, 45-10, 52-10.

NEATH: M Evans; C Higgs, A Palfrey, R Jones, G Bernard; J Price, P Horgan (rep: C Bridges, 68min); D Morris, M Davies (rep: M Thomas, 77), B Evans, G Llewellyn, S Martin, M Bennett (rep: G Newman, 77), I Boobyer, L Jones.

BRIDGEND: G Cull (rep: S Wynn, 52); S Greenaway, G Thomas, R Boobyer, L Davies; M Lewis, G Downes; D Francis, I Greenslade (rep: G A Thomas, 42), J White (rep: R Bezzon 40; rep: J Burnell, 85), C Vogt, C Stephens (rep: E Williams, 25), G Philip, A Williams, O Lloyd.

Referee: D R Davies (Llanbradach).



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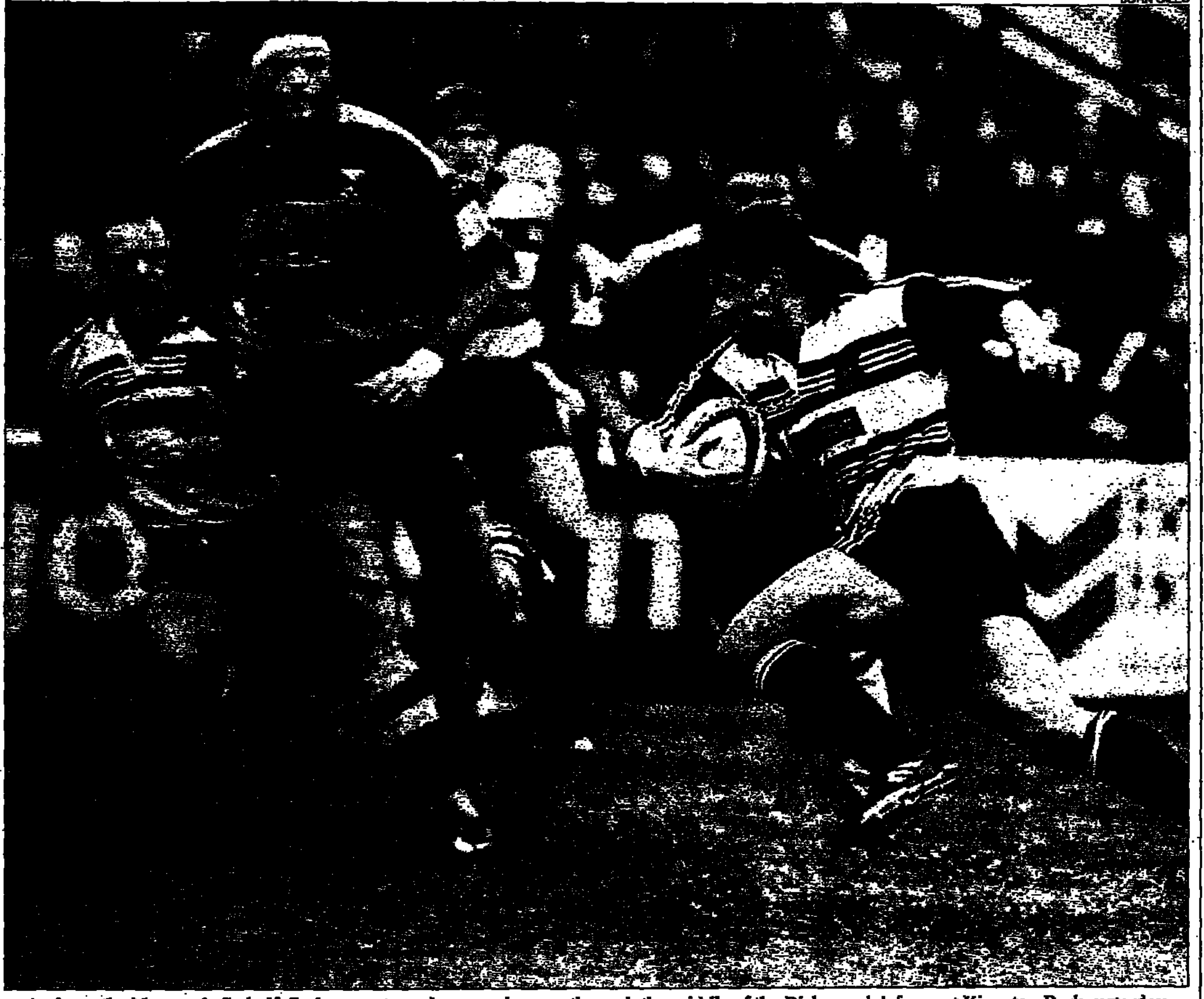
Interminable battle of the place-kickers produces a joyless encounter

Accurate Andrew keeps Newcastle top

Newcastle 18
Richmond 12

By Christopher Irvine



JOHN GILES

Andrew, the Newcastle fly half, finds space to make a surging run through the middle of the Richmond defence at Kingston Park yesterday

LIKE Tony Blair, Rob Andrew is forever repeating the line about guarding against complacency. In a grinding, tryless affair yesterday, which maintained Newcastle's unbeaten record and their lead of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, there was not much evidence of the C-word on his side's part. Neither was there much to commend a turgid, joyless encounter at Kingston Park.

Of 32 penalties awarded by Chris Rees, the referee, ten were landed in a place-kicking duel between Andrew, the victor over Earl Va'a by six penalty goals to four. At the finish, Gary Glitter was played over the Tannoy, presumably in celebration of the fact that Newcastle remain leaders of the gang. A fourth league victory was no more than their persistence deserved in a game lacking in imagination.

Any resemblance to the Richmond side that scored 34 second half points in overhauling Harlequins the previous week and the disjointed XV yesterday was purely coincidental. The absence of Scott Quinnell did not help, nor did the withdrawal in the first half of Hutton from the back row, while Ben Clarke lamely failed to engineer anything of value. When the backs got the ball, handling mistakes overwhelmed them.

Newcastle were fairly one-dimensional, but they had the edge in power and the outstanding contributor in Pat Lam. Hanging off the rucks and surging away from the scrum, the Western Samoa captain is a handful that Richmond failed to contain. The kicking out of hand by Andrew and Legg was not always accurate, but they worked the corners sufficiently for the excellent Weir to constantly trouble the visitors at the lineout. What newcomers in the 4,000-strong crowd made of it is difficult to tell. When rugby is trying to broaden its appeal, drab advertisements like this are the last thing needed.

When the stakes were lower in the second division last season, the sides shared an entertaining draw and Newcastle won comfortably at home. Both began yesterday's match in the top three with serious ambitions. The intent was there, but not the composure as errors and turnovers abounded.

It was a question of who could persevere in an interminable kicking duel. The smart money was always on Andrew, as Va'a has a habit of caressing the ball when it demands to be hoofed. Twice, he missed opportunities in the opening ten minutes, before finally hitting the target from 35 metres, in reply to Andrew's first successful strike.

Against the powerful surges of Lam and Tuigamala, about all Richmond were left with was killing the ball. Andrew converted his next two opportunities, although Va'a then caught up with him to make it 9-9 at the break.

Both sides might have broken the try famine. Richmond's best opportunity was in the eighteenth minute, as Williams rounded Naylor, except that his trailing leg caught the touchline a metre short. At the other end, Newcastle really should have scored shortly afterwards, but Lam was recalled after crossing the line for a forward pass by Ryan off an ideally-placed scrum.

The delight was quickly removed from Popplewell's face when a second apparent Newcastle touchdown was ruled out for a double knock-on. For all the territorial advantage that they enjoyed in the second half, Newcastle could not lever open a better-organised Richmond defence than their attack, which had all but petered out, except for a typically error-strewn late flurry.

Va'a's fourth penalty gave Richmond a brief lead, before Andrew struck again. He then missed two kickable opportunities and another at the end, but further successes, in the sixtieth and 68th minutes, guranteed Newcastle their victory, despite Richmond's belated effort.

With narrow wins of this nature, there is unlikely to be any complacency on Newcastle's part.

SCORERS: Newcastle: Penalty goals: Andrew 6 (4, 13, 28, 46, 59, 67). Richmond: Penalty goals: Va'a 4 (11, 35, 40, 43).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Newcastle first): 3-0, 3-3, 6-3, 9-3, 9-6, 9-9 (half-time), 9-12, 12-12, 15-12, 18-12.

NEWCASTLE: S Legg, J Naylor, V Tuigamala, A Tait, G Childs, R Andrew, G Armstrong; N Popplewell, R Nesdale, P Van Zandvliet (rep: G Graham, 40min), G Archer, D Weir, P Lam, R Arnold, D Ryan.

RICHMOND: M Pini, J Fallon (rep: B Harvey, 77), A Bateman, S Cottrell, S Brown; E Va'a, A Moore; D McFarland, B Williams, J Davies, C Quinnell, C Gilles, C Palmer, R Hutton (rep: R Codling, 38), B Clarke.

Referee: C Rees (London)

Wasps caught unawares by Irish sting

London Irish 22
Wasps 17

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

WHENEVER the English begin to feel good about their rugby, trust the Irish to alter their perceptions. Yesterday morning, London Irish were joint-bottom of the first division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership; yesterday evening, the scalp of the 1997 champions was pinned to the bar at Sunbury and The Avenue was awash with Guinness.

Victory in the gloaming represented the first for Irish in the Premiership, but for Wasps it was their second defeat in succession, after a triumphant waltz through their European pool matches. They never came to terms with an Irish display ablaze with passion, their game was littered with errors and their captain, Lawrence Dallaglio, was shown a yellow card, apparently for dissent.

It was one of those frantic Irish days, a day when the score looks far closer than the game in fact was. With 80 minutes played, the Irish led 22-3, but Wasps, playing a muscular variety of sevens, scored two tries within two minutes. "None of our players are fooled by the scoreboard," Nigel Melville, the Wasps director of rugby, said. "If you go out for 80 minutes and only play for ten, you don't win."

Who would believe that the Irish lost their Lion, Jeremy Davidson, a week ago? The international lock will be missing until the new year with damaged knee ligaments and Willie Anderson, the club's director of rugby, is still aware of the need for high-quality back-up to his squad.

There is an argument that his remaining locks, Gabriel Fulcher and Malcolm O'Kelly, could be translated straight into the national side but for the fact that the Exiles' scrum was in dreadful difficulty for an hour. Pat Whelan, the Ireland manager, was witness to their display, which moved from aggressive suspicion to blazing self-confidence and then almost capitulated at the final moment.

Perhaps Irish believed it could be their day as early as the twelfth minute when Gregory, replacing the injured King, looped his centre and presented a perfect pass to Burrows, who sprinted 60 metres in the opposite direction to give his team a lead that they never relinquished.

Dallaglio was penalised on the ground for Woods to kick his side farther into the lead and penalties by Woods either side of the interval strengthened Irish belief. Wasps contributed to their own downfall by failing to find touch: Humphreys dropped a goal from one such error and, when Gregory grub-kicked precisely into midfield in the hope of opening up the defence, O'Shea punished him by dropping an even longer goal.

Humphreys: dropped goal

It will have been little consolation for Gregory that Scrase scored direct from his cross-kick, while Wood's determination carried him through for the final score. "We tried," Anderson said, "to build on our qualities of Irishness, to put the ball in the air and play in their faces." Wasps know exactly what he means.

SCORERS: London Irish: Try: Burrows (12min). Conversion: Woods. Penalty goals: Woods 3 (20, 40, 52). Dropped goals: Humphreys (76), O'Shea (79). Wasps: Tries: Scrase (81), Wood (83). Conversions: Logan, Rees. Penalty goals: Rees (6).

SCORING SEQUENCE (London Irish first): 0-3, 7-3, 10-3, 13-3, half-time, 16-3, 19-3, 22-3, 22-10, 22-17.

LONDON IRISH: C O'Shea; J Bishop, N Burrows (rep: S Burns, 40min), M McCall, N Woods (rep: C Bird, 76); D Humphreys, N Hogan; J Fitzpatrick, A Redmond, G Halpin, G Fulcher, M O'Kelly, K O'Connell, K Spicer, K Dawson.

WASPS: G Rees; S Roiser (rep: L Scrase, 25), N Greenstock, R Henderson, K Logan; G Gregory, M Wood; D Molloy, T Leota (rep: S Mitchell, 62), W Green, D Cronin (rep: S Shaw, 60), A Reed (rep: Shaw, 6-13), L Dallaglio, M White (rep: C Sheasby, 70), J Worsley.

Referee: G Hughes (Manchester)

Saracens driven by luxury Lynagh

Saracens 42
Gloucester 24

By Mark Souster

THERE must be something in the air at Vicarage Road. Watford Football Club lead the Nationwide League second division by a distance and Saracens, their co-habitees, remain locked at the top of the Allied Dunbar Premiership with Newcastle after this convincing win yesterday.

Although Francois Pienaar, the player-coach, emphasised that it was unwise to get too carried away, he admitted that Saracens were full of confidence and self-belief. "The players are to really starting to express themselves and the pack played well," he said. On this evidence, they will be contenders for the championship next May, especially with Lynagh in such splendid form.

Ironically, Saracens were the slower into their stride and it was Gloucester who took the early initiative. The normally reliable Lynagh missed a straightforward penalty attempt in the third minute, while Mark Mapletoft, his opposite number, missed his first two penalty kicks. In between those attempts, Lynagh restored order with a penalty that gave Saracens the lead.

Through the early endeavours of their pack, Gloucester scored the first try after 17 minutes when Tombs ran straight through Ravenscroft's attempted tackle. Mapletoft contrived to hit the upright with the conversion and then the diminuitive No 10 must have wished Vicarage Road would open up under him. From the restart, he gifted Saracens their opening try when his clearance was charged down by Pienaar, who off-loaded the ball for Lynagh to score.

That knocked the stuffing out of Gloucester. Three minutes later, Free and Copsey were bundled into touch in the far corner, but, from the lineout, Botterman, the hooker, was driven over. After 30 minutes, Saracens extended their lead when Botterman took one against the head and Sella sprinted over.

Lynagh converted and added a penalty soon after half-time before Gloucester roused themselves to set up Tombs for his second try. Saracens, though, riposted with the score of the match. Tomson put in a thunderous tackle on Fanolua and, after a counter-attack that spanned the length of the field, Paul Wallace drove over from a close-range ruck. Chuter charged over for Saracens ten minutes from time before the home side relaxed and allowed Mapletoft and Fanolua to add consolation tries.

SCORERS: Saracens: Tries: Lynagh (19), Botterman (22), Sella (30), Wallace (50), Chuter (70). Conversions: Lynagh 4. Penalty goals: Lynagh 3 (10, 42, 50). Gloucester: Try: Tombs 2 (17, 45), Mapletoft (77), Fanolua (80). Conversions: Mapletoft, Osman.

SCORING SEQUENCE: (Saracens first) 3-0, 3-5, 10-5, 10-5, 17-5, 24-5, (half-time), 27-5, 27-12, 30-12, 37-12, 42-12, 42-17, 42-24

SARACENS: M Singer, R Constable, P Sella (rep: D Tomson, 60min), S Ravenscroft, B Daniel, M Lynagh, B Free, B Reidy (rep: A Olver, 65), G Botterman (rep: G Chuter, 65), P Wallace, D Grewcock, A Copsey (rep: P Johns 65), A Bennett, F Pienaar, A Diprose.

GLOUCESTER: C Catling (rep: C Emmerson, 69min), A Lumsden, T Fanolua, R Tombs, M Lloyd, M Mapletoft (rep: N Osman, 78), S Benton, T Windo (rep: A Deacon, 24), P Greening, R Fidler, D Sims, P Glanville, N Carter, E Pearce.

Referee: S Lander (Liverpool).

Half backs plot Bristol success

Bristol 22
Northampton 15

By John Hopkins

THERE is so much to admire at Bristol RFC, from the impeccable pitch unmarked after a football match on it the previous day to the unparalleled view from the top of one stand, that it is a pleasure to report not yet another defeat but an exciting victory. It was Bristol's first in the Allied Dunbar Premiership.

Quite why a city of 750,000 people with such a sporting heritage cannot unearth a benefactor willing to provide the investment necessary to sustain a rugby club is a puzzle. Suffice to say that Bristol will continue to struggle so long as they aspire to remain competitive with clubs with a million or two to spend. The depressing refrain at the Memorial Ground is: "Any news of a backer?" "No, not yet."

This was a struggle, make no mistake, but after Bristol had recovered from twice being behind to win their first league match, their men returned to the pitch to take a bow first in front of one stand then across the field to the other. You would have thought that they had won the cup.

Though Tim Rodber-less, Northampton had more decision-takers, more stars, more talent. In addition, Matt Dawson's burgeoning career as a kicker flourished. He was successful with five attempts out of seven, generating considerable power from a very short run up. And it was only eight days ago that Northampton had beaten Leicester.

What Northampton did not have was Bristol's zeal, their doggedness, their determination not to lose. Two of the men who demonstrated this most were Robert Jones and Paul Burke. The wily Bristol half backs outplayed Northampton's illustrious pair, Jones reminding everybody again and again what a consumate player he is, even at 31, and Burke having one of those days with his kicking, particularly his drop-kicking, when he could not miss anything.

Dawson kicked five penalties before half-time, Burke two and a dropped goal. Few would have bet on Bristol at that stage. They were trailing 9-15, having allowed Northampton to recover from 3-9 down to lead 15-9 in 30 minutes.

In ten minutes after half-time, Bristol made sure of a victory that they will look back on with great affection. Though Northampton continued to dominate the lineout, Burke first kicked his third penalty goal and then David Tiueti zigzagged his way over for a try after a break by Jones. Burke, who converted, dropped a goal ten minutes later.

SCORERS: Bristol: Try: Tiueti (57). Conversion: Burke. Penalty goals: Burke 3 (8, 22, 56). Dropped goals: Burke 2 (18, 65). Northampton: Penalty goals: Dawson 5 (6, 26, 27, 35, 38).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Bristol first): 0-3, 3-3, 6-3, 9-3, 9-6, 9-9, 9-12, 9-15 (half-time), 12-15, 19-15, 22-15

BRISTOL: J Lewsey; S Jones, D Tiueti, K Maggs, B Breeze; P Burke, R Jones; A Poole, K Dunn, K Fullman, P Adams, C Eagle, S Pearce, C Short, E Rollitt.

NORTHAMPTON: P Grayson; N Beal, A Northey, M Allen, B Cohen; G Townsend, M Dawson; M Volland, A Clarke, M Stewart (rep: M Hynes, 68min), M Bayfield, J Phillips, S Barnes, G Seely, B Pountney.

Referee: B Campsall (Yorkshire)

Canterbury end championship drought

CANTERBURY silenced their critics yesterday by winning New Zealand's National Provincial Championship first division for the first time in 14 years.

After losing in last year's semi-final, Canterbury used their powerful style of play to demolish Counties-Manukau 44-13 in the final at Lancaster Park. Canterbury led 19-3 at half-time and finally scored six tries to one.

Errol Brain, the Counties captain, acknowledged Canterbury's effort as one of the finest all-round displays this season. "They were just too good for us," he said. "Canterbury are a very fine side and we couldn't match them."

In the Currie Cup final at Newlands Stadium in Cape Town on Saturday, Justin Swart's first-half try and three penalty goals by Louis Koen gave Western Province a hard-fought 14-12 victory over Free State. A final surge by Free State in injury time fell short, with a last-second try called back because of a forward pass.

The five nations' champions, France, won the quadrangular Latin Cup in Tarbes by beating a spirited Argentine side 32-27 yesterday. The French clinched victory with five minutes to go when Christian Califano went over under the posts for a controversial try that was converted by Thierry Lacroix, of Harlequins.

Tonga opened their British tour with an entertaining 64-9 win over a Redruth President's XV.

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CHANGING TIMES

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Goodway labours to end conservatism

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meets the coach
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Great Britain a
radical alternative

PAUL COUSANS

Goodway has maintained the brash passion of his playing days in his increasingly influential coaching career

Andy Goodway is, perhaps, the most unlikely of choices as Great Britain's rugby league coach. As a player, he was a scourge of such men — and administrators and disciplinary committee chairmen too — and remains the only player to be banned for foul play of a different sort: stealing the turkey for the Oldham Christmas raffle. "Actually, it was a capon, which sounds posher," he said. "But they still gave me two matches."

When the gravel-voiced Goodway stuck out his cleft chin and spoke out, few answered back. Notorious he may have been, but the maturing of Goodway, as a person and as a coach with a fine technical grasp, meant that there was really only one man for the Great Britain job. He may be less hot-headed and argumentative, but he has not compromised his outspokeness, nor his passion for the game, which has been sorely tested over the past seven months.

His dismissal by Oldham in April, after a moderately successful three years on a modest budget, was a shabby affair. While he was being given the chairman's vote of confidence, his successor was apparently being lined up.

In May, he embarked on a 16-week survival course at Paris Saint-Germain, saving their Super League life at the expense of Oldham, whose defeat in Paris in the final match triggered the club's slide into liquidation.

Amid the recriminations over his dismissal by Oldham, there is sadness at the demise of the club where he began his playing career as a part-timer, maintaining his other job as a milkman. "It's just about dead and it was so unnecessary," he said. "The night Paris relegated Oldham was a job of business, no more."

A troubleshooter in Paris, he is again being asked to perform with limited resources with Britain, whose chances of upsetting the Australian Super League team in the three-match British Gas series, starting at Wembley on Saturday, are, at best, slim. At the end of it, Goodway, 36, who will also be in charge for the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand next October, will again be seeking full-time work: confounding expectations and he could name his price for another club position.

Goodway is not one for false hopes or promises. The failure of British sides in the world club championship disturbed him as much as everyone else and reinforced his opinion that the league structure and attitudes in general are hopelessly outdated. He appreciates that the British game's reputation in Australia has never been lower and that the credibility of the forthcoming series looks shaky.

In Andy Farrell, Jason Robinson and Paul Newlove, however, he has individuals who can instil enough fear in Australia to ensure that the result is not a foregone conclusion. Being written off so conclusively suits him. If he is feeling any pressure, it does not show.

The ranting and raving of his impressionable years form no part of his methodical approach to coaching. "Train hard, play hard," remains Goodway's philosophy. Players absorb his idiosyncratic tip sheets and listen avidly to the hints that could pull a defender out of position.

"I don't want to be judged on three games, because I haven't got some key players and not a lot of time," he said. "I'll judge myself these next three weeks. I want to know if I can do it, whether I'm good enough to coach at this level," he said.

Australia has always been his yardstick, which is why he would take a junior post there — "To take a step back in order to go three forward," he said. A season at Manly-Warringah followed Britain's 1984 tour, when the prolific Goodway was one of the few players to enhance his reputation. A year later, he joined Wigan as the first fully-professional British player and was instrumental as an explosive yet elegant running forward in the club's heyday, first under Graeme Lowe and then John Monie.

Monie brought the best out of the fiery Goodway and, when a broken arm ruled him out for a season, raised eyebrows by placing him in charge of Wigan's academy players. "A lot of things I'd done were just stupid," he said. "With the academy lads, I felt a sense of putting something back in."

The Great Britain job, he added, "is another step to attaining credibility as a coach. You've got to be strange to coach in rugby league, given the short life expectancy, but I want success. Possibly say I didn't play to my full potential, which is why I concentrate with the players on the little things to get the whole right. Any player I've had would agree that they've left me improved in some way."

The tearaway Goodway could drive anyone to distraction. Now one of game's sharpest coaching minds, he has the knack of making players want to play for him. "We'll always be competitive," he said. "It's a question of whether we're smart enough and quick enough to react to certain situations.

"Great Britain have had a habit of playing conservatively. I want to play with freedom." Spoken like a true radical.

SAILING

Dutch and all-female crews out of contention

FROM EDWARD GORMAN
SAILING CORRESPONDENT
IN CAPE TOWN

THE first leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race was all but over yesterday, with only the Dutch crew in *Brunel-Sunergy* still to finish, a feat they are expected to achieve this morning, a week after the leader.

Before the start five weeks ago in the Solent, Dennis Conner, who manages the *Toshiba* campaign, predicted that the first leg would reveal little about which boats might end up being in serious contention towards the end of the race next May. He was right. Without exception, all the skippers have come ashore describing an unusual pattern that left the better finishers feeling lucky and those further down the fleet feeling badly done by.

However, some conclusions can be drawn. Few would argue with the early form guide on the all-female boat, *EF Education*, which finished in ninth place on Saturday afternoon, and on the Dutch. Neither are serious contenders.

The first four boats to finish — *EF Language, Merit Cup, Innovation Kvaerner* and *Silk Cut* — are all products of two-boat programmes. Significantly, perhaps, the top two are the only ones from programmes that built two state-of-the-art new hulls. Half the ten-strong fleet sailed with 11 crew, while the rest opted for 12, yet among the top five boats, only one — *Merit Cup* — sailed with 11.

While Paul Cayard, on *EF Language*, and Grant Dalton, on *Merit Cup*, will be looking to consolidate a strong opening on the next leg, three skippers are under pressure to improve. They are Lawrie Smith, on *Silk Cut*, who should do well in classic Southern Ocean weather; Chris Dickson, on *Toshiba*, who cannot afford to reach Fremantle much below third place; and Gunnar Krantz, on *Swedish Match*, who has had a nightmare start to one of the best-funded campaigns in the race.

BOXING

Schwer win keeps Duff out of retirement

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN ZARAGOZA

BILLY SCHWER kept his hopes, and those of his manager, Mickey Duff, alive with a dramatic victory here on Saturday. Both Schwer and Duff were facing the prospect of considering retirement if the Luton lightweight failed in his challenge against Oscar Garcia, of Spain, for the European championship.

Schwer needed an important win to restore his confidence after his defeat by David Tetteh, of Ghana, in 1995 and to give him a high ranking to follow his world title ambitions. Duff needed time to consider his options after the loss of his ranking among managers after four of his world-rated boxers joined other promoters.

The break came in the tenth round when Schwer dropped a beautiful right on the Spaniard's chin. Garcia fell flat on his face. He got up and tried to continue, but it needed little more than a stiff jab to bring the referee, Bob Logist, of Belgium, to his rescue.

Schwer, who now takes over Garcia's second, fourth and sixth positions in the World Boxing Organisation, World Boxing Association and World Boxing Council rankings respectively, can confidently look forward to a world title bout next year.

As a contest, it was the most satisfying I have seen from a British boxer for a long time. At the time of the stoppage, Schwer was behind on the three judges's cards by seven, four and two rounds, though I had him level. He had no chance of winning on points and needed to produce a knockout blow.

Through courage, determination and good boxing, he set up Garcia for the big punch, lifting the contest above so many that pass for world championships.

In the eighth round, Schwer's jab broke Garcia's nose and his refusal to buckle under the relentless assault broke the Spaniard's heart.

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

FOOTBALL

kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership
Leicester v West Ham (8.0) ....

DR MARTENS LEAGUE CUP: First round, second leg: Chelmsford (1) v Ashford (2) (7.45)

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Cup: Second round: Ashton United v Runcorn

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v Portsmouth (at Lewes FC, 2.0); Millwall v Chelsea (2.0); Norwich v Luton

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Liverpool v Manchester United (7.0); Stoke v Preston (at Newcastle Town FC, 7.0). First division: Manchester City v Port Vale (6.45); Sunderland v Wolverhampton (at Durham City FC, 7.0). Second division: Lincoln v Rochdale (7.0)

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: President's Cup: Second round: Brigg Town v Hatfield Main; Hall Road v Selby; Hallam v Arnold; Winterton v North Ferriby; Worsbrough Bridge v Rossington Main.

FA YOUTH CUP: Third qualifying round: Scarborough v Hartlepool

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham v Ipswich (7.45); Middlesbrough v Huddersfield (7.45).

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Morecambe v Halifax (7.45)

OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: European League: Manchester Storm v Sparta Prague (7.30)

TABLE TENNIS: European women's League: Super division: England v Germany (at Slough).

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

WORLD CUP: European qualifying zone: Play-offs, first leg: Croatia v Ukraine (at Zagreb, 5.0); Hungary v Yugoslavia (at Budapest, 7.0); Ireland v Belgium (at Lansdowne Road); Russia v Italy (at Moscow, 5.30)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Manchester City v Crewe (7.45). Second division: Millwall v Bristol City (7.45).

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Hearts v Dunfermline (7.45).

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Bristol v Tonga XV (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: London Towers v Derby Storm (8.0). Uni-ball Trophy: Crystal Palace v London Leopards (8.0)

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle Cobras v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.0).

TENNIS: LTA women's challenger tournament (at Edinburgh)

THURSDAY

HOCKEY: Women's international match: England v South Korea (at Milton Keynes, 3.0)

TENNIS: LTA women's challenger tournament (at Edinburgh).

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Portsmouth v Swindon (7.45). Third division: Colchester v Scunthorpe (7.45).

OTHER SPORT

HOCKEY: Women's international match: England v South Korea (at Milton Keynes, 3.0)

ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Manchester Storm v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.30).

TENNIS: LTA women's challenger tournament (at Edinburgh)

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Aston Villa v Chelsea; Barnsley v Blackburn; Bolton v Liverpool; Derby v Arsenal; Manchester United v Sheffield Wednesday; Newcastle v Leicester; Tottenham v Leeds; Wimbledon v Coventry

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Bradford v West Bromwich; Charlton v Ipswich; Huddersfield v Stoke; Norwich v Bury; Nottingham Forest v Crewe; * Oxford United v Manchester City; Port Vale v Reading; Queens Park Rangers v Birmingham; Sheffield United v Tranmere; Stockport v Sunderland; Wolverhampton v Middlesbrough. Second division: Bournemouth v Brentford; Bristol City v Oldham; Burnley v Walsall; Carlisle v Wrexham; Fulham v Chesterfield; Gillingham v Millwall; Grimsby v Southend; Northampton v Bristol Rovers; Preston v Plymouth; Watford v Blackpool; Wigan v York; Wycombe v Luton. Third division: Barnet v Notts County; Cambridge United v Torquay; Chester v Rochdale; Darlington v Hull (1.0); Exeter v Peterborough; Hartlepool v Brighton; Lincoln v Leyton Orient; Rotherham v Macclesfield; Scarborough v Doncaster; Shrewsbury v Mansfield.

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Cheltenham v Halifax; Farnborough v Welling; Hayes v Gateshead; Hednesford v Yeovil; Kidderminster v Woking; Leek v Dover; Morecambe v Hereford; Northwich v Telford; Rushden and Diamonds v Slough; Southport v Kettering; Stalybridge v Stevenage.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Aberdeen v Hearts; Dunfermline v Celtic; Hibernian v Dundee United; Rangers v Kilmarnock; St Johnstone v Motherwell. First division: Airdrie v Raith; Dundee v Partick; Hamilton v Greenock Morton; Stirling v St Mirren. Second division: Forfar v Clyde; Inverness CT v Brechin; Stenhousemuir v East Fife; Stranraer v Livingston. Third division: Berwick v Albion; Cowdenbeath v Alloa; East Stirling v Arbroath; Montrose v Dumbarton; Queen's Park v Ross County

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

HEINEKEN CUP: Quarter-final qualifiers: Brive v Pontypridd (3.30); Cardiff v Llanelli (5.15); Leicester v Glasgow

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First division: Bath v Richmond; London v Irish Newcastle.

TETLEY'S BITTER CUP: Third round: Barking v Exeter (2.30); Bedford v Staines; Blackheath v Sandal; Broadstreet v Bracknell (2.30); Camberley v Kendal (2.30); Coventry v Sheffield; Doncaster v Tynedale (2.15); Fylde v Aspatria (2.30); Havant v Rugby (2.30); London Welsh v Waterloo (2.30); Lydney v London Scottish; Moseley v Liverpool St Helens; North Walsham v Rosslyn Park (2.30); Orrell v Newbury; Otley v Manchester (2.15); Rotherham v Launceston (2.15); Stourbridge v Reading (2.30); Wakefield v Morley (2.30); West Hartlepool v Cheltenham; Wharfedale v Worcester (2.15)

WELSH LEAGUE: First division: Blackwood v Abertillery (2.0); Caerphilly v Merthyr (2.0); Cross Keys v Bonymaen (2.0); Llandovery v Treorchy (2.0); Newbridge v Maesteg (2.0); Pontypool v Dunvant (2.0); Rumney v Aberavon (2.0); South Wales Police v Cardiff Institute (2.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Great Britain v Australia (at Wembley, 2.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Birmingham Bullets v Watford Royals (7.30). Uni-ball Trophy: Derby Storm v Sheffield Sharks (7.30). National Cup: Worthing Bears v Crystal Palace (8.0); Coventry Crusaders v Thames Valley Tigers (7.30); Stevenage Rebels v Manchester Giants (8.0); Leicester Riders v Newcastle Eagles (7.30).

BOXING: British super-bantamweight championship: M Brodie (Manchester, holder) v W Docherty (Scot). British light-middleweight championship (vacant): E Bingham (Manchester) v N Thurbin (Ilford) (at Glasgow)

HOCKEY: Women's international match: England v South Korea (at Milton Keynes, 3.0).

ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Cardiff Devils v Newcastle Cobras (5.30).

TENNIS: LTA women's challenger tournament (at Edinburgh).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Everton v Southampton (4.0).

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Third division: Cardiff v Swansea (12.05)

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP: Final: Falkirk v Queen of South (at Fir Park, Motherwell, 3.0)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First division: Gloucester v Harlequins; Saracens v Bristol; Wasps v Sale.

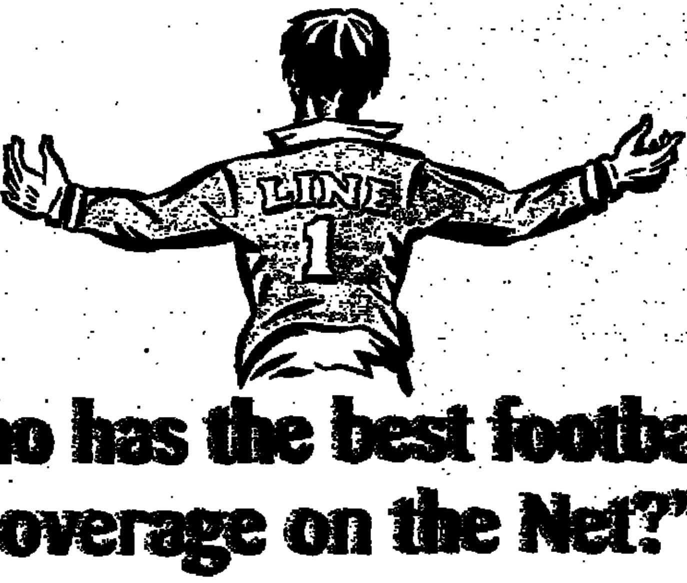
TOUR MATCHES: Edinburgh v Tonga XV (at Goldenacre, 2.15); Scottish Borders v New South Wales (at Greenyards, Melrose, 2.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: London Towers v Leicester Riders (5.0). National Cup: London Leopards v Derby Storm (5.0); Sheffield Sharks v Watford Royals (6.0); Chester Jets v Bullets Birmingham 7.30)

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle Cobras v Manchester Storm (6.30); Bracknell Bees v Sheffield Steelers (6.0); Basingstoke Bison v Cardiff Devils (6.0).

TENNIS: LTA women's challenger tournament (at Edinburgh)



NEWS SPORT WHAT'S ON FUN KNOWLEDGE MONEY SHOPPING TALK INTERNET

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The Lederer Memorial Trophy is an invitation teams event, played at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club every autumn. There are teams with names like "All Stars", "Naturals", "Journalists", titles designed to bring in players that the audience might like to see, who wouldn't qualify on other grounds. There are also some teams like "Premier League winners", "Gold Cup winners" etc, who are eligible through current achievements. The 1996 winners were "London", though they had only one Cockney.

Today's hand from the 1996 event involved a standard communication play. The club position is more usually seen the other way up — dummy has the A J 9 x x and declarer the small cards — but good players recognise it from either side.

Dealer East **East-West game** **IMPs**

♠ K Q J 2
♥ A K 7
♦ Q 9 6 4
♣ 8 6

♠ 6
♥ 10 8 6 4 2
♦ K 10 3
♣ Q 5 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 10 9 7 3
♥ Q 9 3
♦ J 7 2
♣ K 10

♠ 8 5 4
♥ J 5
♦ A 8 5
♣ A J 9 7 3

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: four of hearts.

Declarer played low from dummy on the heart lead, and East won and returned the suit. Now declarer led a club from dummy, and at all tables East played the king. After he had won the ace declarer could still have succeeded by continuing the jack of clubs, but in practice he led a spade. East won and continued hearts, establishing the setting tricks for West, who got in with the queen of clubs to take them.

Notice that if East plays the ten of clubs on the first round of the suit declarer has an easy ride — he puts in the jack, and even if West ducks declarer can set up clubs by playing ace and another.

At tables where North was declarer in Three No-Trumps, East led a spade and the favourable club position meant that there were an easy nine tricks.

☐ The 1997 Lederer Memorial Trophy takes place at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 32 Barkston Gardens, London SW5 on November 8 and 9 with sessions at 2pm and 8pm on Saturday and 1pm on Sunday. Spectators welcome — £5 per session or £10 for all three. Tickets on the door.

Women qualify

In the world bridge championships, a strong finish to the round robin saw the British women qualify comfortably in fifth place for the knockout stages of the Venice Cup. The quarter-final draw is: Great Britain v China, USA I v Italy, USA II v Canada, France v Holland. After 32 boards of the 96-board quarter-final, Great Britain led 73-62.

By Philip Howard

WHIPSAW
a. An American bird
b. A double disadvantage
c. An instrument of torture

SOVKHOZ
a. Caviare with sour cream
b. A first cousin
c. A state farm

VISGY
a. A hedge-beater
b. Glutinous
c. A deputy governor

ZOHAR
a. A Persian oracle
b. A Cabbalistic text
c. A constellation

Answers on page 43

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Harmonious play

The Russian grandmaster and former Soviet champion, Mark Taimanov, was one of the celebrities of the Owens Corning international tournament at Wrexham. Taimanov played a prominent role in world chess, combining his career as a grandmaster with that as a concert pianist. However, in the early 1970s he was demolished by the score of 6-0 in a world championship qualifying contest by Bobby Fischer. This effectively put an end to Taimanov's dreams of becoming world champion.

In the following game from Wrexham, Taimanov outmanoeuvres an American master who lacked the Russian's experience in complicated endgames.

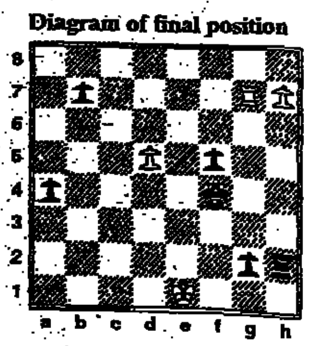
White: John Donaldson
Black: Mark Taimanov
Owens Corning, October 1997

Bogo-Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	Bb4+
4	Bd2	a5
5	g3	d5
6	Qc2	Nc6
7	a3	Be7
8	Bg2	0-0
9	0-0	Bd7
10	Rd1	a4
11	cxd5	exd5
12	Nc3	Na5
13	Bg5	Nb3
14	Rab1	Ra5
15	Ne5	Be8
16	e3	h6
17	Bxf6	Bxf6
18	Nd3	Bc6
19	Nb4	Qd7
20	Nca2	Be7
21	Nc1	Nxc1
22	Rdxc1	Bxb4
23	axb4	Ra6
24	Qc5	Rb6
25	Bf1	Bb5
26	Qxc7	Qxc7
27	Rxc7	Bxf1
28	Kxf1	Rxb4
29	Ra1	Ra8
30	Ra2	Ra5
31	Ke2	Rab5
32	Rc8+	Kh7
33	Rc2	Kg6
34	Kd2	Kf5
35	f3	h5
36	Kc1	g5
37	Rc7	f6
38	h3	g4
39	fxg4+	hxg4
40	h4	Ke4
41	Re7+	Kf3
42	h5	Rb6
43	Ra3	Kxg3
44	e4+	Kf4
45	exd5	Rc4+
46	Kb1	Rxd4
47	h6	f5
48	Re6	Rb5
49	Rh3	Rd2
50	h7	Rbxb2+
51	Kc1	Rdc2+
52	Kd1	Rh2
53	Rxh2	Rxh2
54	Re7	g3
55	Rg7	g2

White resigns

Diagram of final position



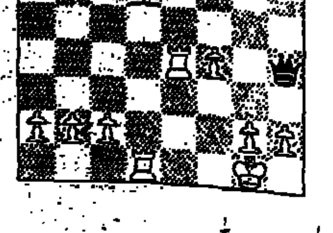
Veteran's victory

In the double round speed tournament in Ceska Trebova, Czech Republic, Viktor Korchnoi, 66, scored 4½ out of 6 to take the clear first place ahead of Kavalek on 3½, Ftacnik on 2½ and Smejkal on 1½.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. From the game Euwe — Reti, Amsterdam 1920. With the black king exposed and the white pieces all in play, the position looks promising for White. However, Reti now turned the tables with a fine combination. How did he continue?



Solution on page 43

Dutch and
all-femal
crews out of
contention

هكذا من الأصل

RACING: ADVENTUROUS RAID PLANNED FOR DONCASTER WINNER

Saratoga Springs in line for Kentucky Derby tilt

By Chris McGrath

MICHAEL TABOR is considering an adventurous raid on the Kentucky Derby with Saratoga Springs, who carried his colours to victory in the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster on Saturday.

While that narrow success, at the expense of Mudeer, served as a fine conclusion to Tabor's remarkable season, it was greeted with indifference by bookmakers betting on next year's domestic classics. But Saratoga Springs could yet perform a defining role in sealing, with the neatest symmetry, the emergence of a new sporting superpower.

For it was only in 1995 that Thunder Gulch launched a revolution in the bloodstock world, by winning the Kentucky Derby for Tabor. That horse was trained in California by D Wayne Lukas, but Tabor has since accelerated across enough frontiers to be enthused by the idea of seeking a new one with Saratoga Springs, who is trained in Ireland by Aidan O'Brien.

It is their embarrassment of riches that encourages Tabor to ponder, while Second Empire and King Of Kings prepare for the 2,000 Guineas, a bold alternative for this son of El Gran Senor. "I must admit it is something that appeals to me, going to Kentucky with a horse like Saratoga Springs," Tabor said yesterday.

"Travelling there and acting on dirt is a whole different ball game, but I could see him being well suited by the race. He loves a bit of rough and tumble, loves a big field, and the turns would suit him well."

Tabor added: "It is something I will have to discuss with Aidan, and with John Magnier and Demi O'Byrne, but Aidan is open to any suggestion that enables him to do even better."

O'Brien has been the most invaluable of Tabor's escorts through the last two dizzy years, his young genius providing — along with the financial muscle of Tabor himself — the fresh impetus that has revived Coolmore. It seems only fitting that the talk is of Robert Sangster, its former linchpin, stepping down from some of his racing commitments.

There could, however, be no sterner test of O'Brien's quest for new horizons than Kentucky. His compatriot, Dermot Weld, set a standard he later exceeded in the Melbourne Cup by winning the 1990 Belmont Stakes with Go And Go, while the dauntless Clive Brittain saddled Bold Arrangement to finish second in the Kentucky Derby in 1986.

But those who have fared less well since include Arazi and Dr Devious in 1992 — Arazi despite looking a dirt champion in the Breeders' Cup the previous autumn, and Dr Devious despite being good enough to win the Derby at Epsom on his return. Henry Cecil has also found it a fruitless enterprise, with Eltish two years ago. Saratoga Springs, at least, has acquired plenty of experience during his juvenile career, resuming his progress since being stepped up to a mile.

There was, moreover, a reminder yesterday that the Irish racehorse can travel in style when Ebadiyla won the Prix Royal-Oak at Longchamp. The Aga Khan's filly, who had a setback before running down the field in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on her previous start, was back to the form that won the Irish Oaks. Her travelling companion, Oscar Schindler, was fourth in the Arc but did not get home over the longer trip, surrendering second to Snow Princess.

Though open to older horses, the Royal-Oak is the French St Leger, so yesterday's result duly completed a first British whitewash for over 30 years in every French and Irish classic. Some pride was restored, however, by Hever Golf Rose in the Prix du Petit Couvert. The mare has not recently matched the feats of her prime, but bounced back — on what could prove her final start — to deny the local favourite, Kistena.

BIG-RACE DETAILS

Going: soft
PRIX ROYAL-OAK
(Group 1: £44,893: 1m 7½f)
1, EBADIYLA (G Mosse); 2, Snow Princess (K Fallon); 3, Oscar Schindler (C Asmussen. Also ran: Silver Fun (4th), Double Eclipse (5th), Camporese (6th), Nothin' Leica Dane, Stretarez, Further Flight, Grey Shot, Bahamian Knight. 11 ran. 6l, ¾l, 1½l, 3l, hd. J Oxx in Ireland. Pari-mutuel (inc 1fr stake): 8.30, 1.90, 5.70, 1.10; DF: 382.50. 3min 26.56sec.

ED BYRNE

Saratoga Springs stays on bravely to deny Mudeer, nearside, in the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster on Saturday

LEICESTER

THUNDERER
1.30 Windswept
2.00 Pure Nobility
2.30 Altibr
3.00 Groom's Gordon
3.30 Wahiba Sands
4.00 Margone
4.30 Comiche Quest

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 Meshhed. 4.00 Margone.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

1.30 SEAGRAVE APPRENTICES CLAIMING HANDICAP
(£2,207: 1m 8yd) (16 runners)

101	(4)	2210640	STELLAR LINE 11 (F) (Odyssey Racing) M Polglase 4-10-0	Victoria Appleby	68
102	(9)	3002-05	LUCKY ARCHER 20 (Parishioners) J Bradley 4-9-12	R Thomas (7)	66
103	(3)	2100100	MYTTONS MISTAKE 23 (D,F) (G Mytton) A Bailey 4-9-9	J Bosley (7)	71
104	(2)	0622020	SILVER HARROW 40 (G,S) (M Patel) A Newcombe 4-9-5	R Studholme	76
105	(13)	2650001	SCATHEBURY 13 (C,D,F,S) (K Shields) K Burke 4-9-0	A Nicholls (5)	[illegible]
106	(5)	10400-0	HOLLOWAY MELODY 9 (D,G) (Mrs R Gibson) B McMahon 4-8-11	S Righton	35
107	(1)	6666600	SPARKLING HARRY 7 (L Siddall Racing) Miss L Siddall 3-8-5	T Siddall	62
108	(15)	0022004	DON'T WORRY MIKE 9 (Inthebing Ltd) J Spearing 3-8-5	P Bradley	71
109	(11)	5544056	GRESATRE 12 (V) (E Kettenacker) C Dwyer 3-8-4	P Clarke (3)	69
110	(16)	0040000	DEERLY 9 (C,G) (Mrs B Mundy) R Dickin 4-8-3	P Mundy (7)	48
111	(8)	0-05000	WINDSWEPT 20 (B,F) (Miss S Blumberg) M Pipe 4-8-2	J Dennis	69
112	(12)	0-00040	SKELTON COUNTESS 40 (G Bailey) R Hollinshead 4-8-2	D Hayden (5)	50
113	(14)	005000	PRINCE ZIZIM 31 (J Purcell) R Spicer 4-7-10	D Williams (3)	58
114	(15)	450000	BISON BELTING 5 (Allerton & Green) J Glover 3-7-10	S Carson	49
115	(6)	0033003	ONE IN THE EYE 9J (T Armour) J Poulton 4-7-10	J Fowle	74
116	(7)	0300000	BALI-PET 20 (D) (B Flegg) J Pearce 3-7-10	R Brisland (3)	50

BETTING: 9-2 Scathebury, 5-1 Myttons Mistake, 8-1 Gresatre, One In The Eye, 10-1 Windswept, 12-1 others.

1996: DESERT ZONE 7-8-7 C Lowther (20-1) J L Harris 20 ran

FORM FOCUS Lucky Archer 8¾l 5th to Blewbury Hill in 1m Warwick stakes (good to firm). Myttons Mistake 8¾l 10th to Royal Result in 7f Newmarket handicap (good to firm). Scathebury beat Birchwood Sun 1½l in 7f selling handicap here (good to soft). Don't Worry Mike 6½l 4th to Dorado Beach in 7f Wolverhampton maiden auction (AW). Gresatre 13¼l 6th to Brighstone in 1m Nottingham claimer (soft). One In The Eye 4¾l 3rd to The Green Grey in 1m Bath maiden handicap (1m 5yd, good to firm).

MYTTONS MISTAKE will appreciate drop in class. Gresatre can follow him home

2.00 JOHN O'GAUNT NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,353: 7f 9yd) (11 runners)

201	(8)	01	PURE NOBILITY 33 (D,G) (B Frain) B Hills 9-7	M Hills	77
202	(9)	053	CANTONESE 53 (K Abdulla) R Charlton 9-4	G Carter	69
203	(2)	20001	CAVERSFIELD 70 (F) (W Kelly) R Hannon 9-1	Dane O'Neill	83
204	(10)	5302	KATAH 30 (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	84
205	(3)	054	FORMER LOVE 36 (B Jones) P R Webber 8-13	K Fallon	83
206	(4)	405551	SHAMWARI SONG 26 (D,F) (W Swanson) J Glover 8-7	J Carroll	83
207	(1)	500	CHAYANEE'S ARENA 65 (H Lake) A Newcombe 8-5	S Drowne	81
208	(5)	000	ZURYAF 60 (B) (Abbott Racing Ltd) B Meehan 8-4	G Duffield	83
209	(7)	006	ZILLION 26 (M Tabah) J W Payne 8-3	A Mackay	71
210	(11)	001566	FORTY LOVE 7 (G) (E Carter) J Banks 7-13	R Mullen (5)	[illegible]
211	(6)	0060	DAWN TREADER 32 (Miss L Regis) R Hannon 7-10	J Lowe	63

BETTING: 9-4 Pure Nobility, 4-1 Caversfield, 11-2 Katah, 7-1 Cantonese, 8-1 Shamwari Song, 12-1 Former Love, 16-1 Chayanee's Arena, Forty Love, 20-1 others.

1996: MARAUD 8-10 F Lynch (14-1) J Spearing 17 ran

FORM FOCUS Pure Nobility beat Freedom Quest 1¼l in 7f Chester maiden (good). Cantonese 5l 3rd to Flawless in 7f Salisbury maiden (good to soft). Caversfield beat Lasham 1¼l in 6f Windsor nursery (good to firm). Katah 1¾l 2nd to Jungle Story in 7f Catterick nursery (good). Shamwari Song beat Flaxen Pride neck in 7f Newcastle maiden auction (good to firm).

KATAH can go one better at expense of Pure Nobility

2.30 E B F WIDMERPOOL MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,782: 7f 9yd) (14 runners)

301	(8)	00	ACADEMY 13 (Blenheim Thoroughbred Racing) A Turnell 9-0	Dale Gibson	78
302	(9)		ALTIBR (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 9-0	L Dettori	—
303	(13)	0	COOL AFFAIR 7 (G Darley) A Mulholland 9-0	T Lucas	—
304	(2)	00	CULTURED KING 40 (Highfields Ptns) J S-Osborne 9-0	R Havlin (3)	61
305	(4)	0	INCEPTA 39 (A Morton) B Hills 9-0	M Hills	69
306	(5)		LONESOME DUDE (S Sohail) M Stoute 9-0	J Carroll	—
307	(11)	4	MUDALAL 13 (H al-Maktoum) D Morley 9-0	G Carter	77
308	(12)	000	MY TYSON 16 (H Al-Mehairi) K Mahdi 9-0	Dane O'Neill	68
309	(1)	3	NORTH OF THE BORDER 13 (R Abd) M Johnston 9-0	Dean McKeown	74
310	(10)		PLAY SAFE (S Crown) B Hills 9-0	R Cochrane	—
311	(6)		ALZAHRA (Mrs J Hargreaves) J G Smyth-Osbourne 8-9	G Duffield	—
312	(14)	000	OUR MOLLY MALONE 14 (Fosses Fillies Partnership) D Morley 8-9	M Fenton	75
313	(3)	02	SPREE ROSE 20 (D Bass) K Cunningham-Brown 8-9	K Fallon	[illegible]
314	(7)		WILLA WOOSTER (Miss A Rawding) P Murphy 8-9	S Drowne	—

BETTING: 5-4 Altibr, 7-4 Lonesome Dude, Mudalal, North Ofthe Border, Spree Rose, Play Safe, 12-1 others.

1996: ORTELIUS 9-0 R Hughes (40-1) R Hannon 10 ran

FORM FOCUS Altibr, a Diesis colt and brother of the top-class sprinter Keen Hunter. Incepta 14l 12th to Dr Fong in 7f Newbury maiden (good to firm). Mudalal 4¾l 4th to Goodwood Cavalier in 7f maiden here (good to soft). North Ofthe Border 1½l 3rd to Sat Trail in 7f Ayr maiden (soft). Spree Rose 3l 2nd to Red Leggings in 7f Warwick maiden (good to firm).

NORTH OFTHE BORDER looks best of those with racecourse experience

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
S bin Suroor	4	7	57.1	L Dettori	41	186	22.0
H Cecil	22	81	27.2	K Fallon	13	94	13.8
M Stoute	18	71	25.4	F Lynch	7	55	12.7
P Makin	8	37	21.6	A Mackay	9	72	12.5
J Gosden	15	74	20.3	J Carroll	6	50	12.0

3.00 WYSALL CONDITIONS STAKES (£4,889: 7f) (8 runners)

401	(6)	0061640	MUJOVA 9 (D,F,G) (J Graham) R Hollinshead 3-9-0	A Culhane	88
402	(1)	0455445	ACHARNE 44 (S) (Parrot Racing) C Brittain 4-8-12	L Dettori	100
403	(8)	1050500	MR BERGERAC 9 (C,F,G,S) (P John) B Palling 6-8-12	D Sweeney (3)	104
404	(7)	4104020	MESHHED 22 (CD,F) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 3-8-11	K Fallon	[illegible]
405	(5)	110-050	FUN GALORE 87 (D,F) (Miss H al-Maktoum) B Hills 3-8-10	M Hills	96
406	(4)	0-25006	GROOM'S GORDON 103 (D,F,G) (Mrs H Focke) J Dunlop 3-8-10	R Cochrane	100
407	(3)	D20-	ISIT IZZY 445 (Mrs A Beard) B McMahon 5-8-7	L Newton	—
408	(2)	220022	DANCING DROP 17 (F,G) (M Sufail) R Hannon 3-8-5	Dane O'Neill	121

BETTING: 11-8 Dancing Drop, 7-2 Acharne, 4-1 Meshhed, 8-1 Groom's Gordon, 12-1 Fun Galore, 16-1 others.

1996: MASHMOUM 3-8-5 J Carroll (10-1) J Gosden 4 ran

FORM FOCUS Mr Bergerac 6½l 10th to State Of Caution in 6f Wolverhampton handicap (AW). Meshhed 6¼l 15th to Clodora in 1m 1f Longchamp group II (good to firm). Fun Galore 8¼l 12th to Jorrocks in 7f Goodwood handicap (good to firm). Groom's Gordon 4¼l last of 6 to Intikhab in 1m Doncaster stakes (good to firm). Dancing Drop 1¾l 2nd to Jafn in 1m Ascot listed stakes (heavy).

MESHHED, a course and distance winner, can profit from a return to this trip

3.30 SQUIRREL CONDITIONS STAKES (£4,976: 1m 4f) (5 runners)

501	(5)	110/24-	EDIPO RE 282J (S) (T Eaves) P Hobbs 5-9-0	M Hills	—
502	(2)	5005021	WAHIBA SANDS 13 (F,S) (Lord Swaythling) J Dunlop 4-9-0	L Dettori	[illegible]
503	(1)	134-604	BESIEGE 12 (F,G) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 3-8-7	K Fallon	90
504	(4)	0	PRIMERO 94 (A Harrington) A Barrow 3-8-7	G Duffield	—
505	(3)	4306112	SECRET BALLOT 3 (BF,CD,S) (W al-Maktoum) K Mahdi 3-8-7	R Cochrane	94

BETTING: 5-4 Besiege, 11-8 Wahiba Sands, 7-1 Secret Ballot, 8-1 Edipo Re, 50-1 Primero

1996: MASEHAAB 3-8-7 K Darley (4-1) J Dunlop 6 ran

FORM FOCUS Wahiba Sands beat Hill Farm Blues 4l in 1m 5f Ayr handicap (soft). Besiege 31l 4th to Rainwatch in 1¼m Haydock stakes (soft). Secret Ballot 3l 2nd to American Whisper in 1¼m Doncaster handicap (good).

BESIEGE, disappointing this year, could be revived by today's faster ground

4.00 FLECKNEY MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,938: 6f) (22 runners)

601	(14)		CITADEL (Lady Rothschild) J G Smyth-Osbourne 8-11	G Duffield	—
602	(16)	00	CLOUDS OF GLORY 48 (N Bryce-Smith) R Charlton 8-11	G Carter	60
603	(5)		DE-WOLF (B Waterhouse) P Makin 8-11	D Sweeney (3)	—
604	(1)		EFODOS (L Marinopoulos) G Wragg 8-11	G Milligan (5)	—
605	(22)	6	EMPIRICAL 90 (K Abdulla) J Gosden 8-11	L Dettori	93
606	(4)	0	FAIRY ROCK 10 (J Grant) B Hills 8-11	J Carroll	79
607	(10)	06	GANDOURA 73 (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 8-11	Dale Gibson	85
608	(9)	0	HETRA HEIGHTS 10 (K L West) W Musson 8-11	R Cochrane	61
609	(17)	6	HIT THE SPOT 10 (M Tabor) W Haggas 8-11	F Lynch	37
610	(2)	0	JOLLY HARBOUR 40 (Mrs H Chariel) W Haggas 8-11	Jo Hannam (5)	37
611	(11)		JUST DESERTS (David Gibson) P Makin 8-11	R Havlin (3)	—
612	(13)	33	LIGHT STEP 20 (K Abdulla) H Cecil 8-11	K Fallon	108
613	(8)	3	LINDESBERG 31 (B Yeardley Continental Ltd) M Johnston 8-11	D McKeown	76
614	(6)		MARGONE (Gestut Schlenderhan) G Wragg 8-11	A Culhane	—
615	(20)		NEEDWOOD SPITFIRE (Needwood Racing Ltd) B Morgan 8-11	S Drowne	—
616	(15)	2603206	POSITIVE AIR 11 (R Thornhill) B McMahon 8-11	L Newton	95
617	(19)		SCOTLAND BAY (J Shannon) R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill	—
618	(7)	05	SIXPENCE 23 (Cheveley Park Stud) G Wragg 8-11	M Hills	83
619	(21)	40	SKY RED 23 (T Neill) M Bell 8-11	M Fenton	85
620	(18)	4940	SOLO SPIRIT 25 (Mrs I Hampson) J Jenkins 8-11	J F Egan	94
621	(12)	00	TOUGH NELL 6 (Godolphal Racing Partnership) Bob Jones 8-11	D Biggs	—
622	(3)	0	TREBLE TERM 52 (Mrs P Makin) P Makin 8-11	J Fortune	78

BETTING: 3-1 Light Step, 11-2 Empirical, 7-1 Gandoura, Lindesberg, 10-1 Efodos, Fairy Rock, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS Clouds Of Glory 15l last of 15 to Jibe in 7f Lingfield maiden (good). Empirical 4¼l 6th to Expect To Shine in 6f Goodwood maiden (good to firm). Fairy Rock 7½l 8th to Aluf in 6f Newmarket maiden (good to soft) with Hetra Heights (same terms) 13l 14th. Gandoura 8½l 6th to Shmoose in 6f Newbury maiden (good to firm). Hit The Spot 16l 6th to Ayan in 5f Catterick maiden (soft). Jolly Harbour 11l last of 8 to Madame Claude in 6f Yarmouth maiden (firm). Light Step 2½l 3rd to Sense Of Wonder in 6f Redcar maiden (good to firm). Lindesberg 4¼l 3rd to Special Treat in 6f Redcar maiden (firm). Margone, Dayjur filly out of Whispered Secret. Positive Air 15l 6th to Shfoug in 7f Catterick maiden (soft). Sixpence 8½l 5th to Ollin in 6f Newmarket maiden (good to firm) with Sky Red (same terms) 11l 8th. Treble Term 4¾l 7th to Escudo in 5f Haydock maiden (good to soft)

LIGHT STEP can use his experience to defeat the highly regarded Margone

4.30 THRUSSINGTON HANDICAP
(£3,691: 5f 218yd) (22 runners)

1	(22)	0000002	ROYAL DOME 9 (F,G) (G Jones) M Wane 5-10-1	J Carroll	74
2	(11)	1130053	ROFFEY SPINNEY 6 (D) (Mrs D Cock) R Hannon 3-9-12	Dane O'Neill	71
3	(15)	2506236	BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY 6 (V,D,F,G,S) D Shaw 7-9-10	C Teague (3)	71
4	(18)	6-RR000	SAILORMAITE 63 (CD,G,S) (S Bowring) S Bowring 6-9-9	S Webster	62
5	(1)	0040030	DEPRECIATE 10 (D,G) (V R Bedley) C James 4-9-7	T Lucas	77
6	(14)	6600606	CORNICHE QUEST 7 (D,F,G,S) (M Bishop) M Channon 4-9-7	A Eddery (7)	73
7	(6)	4436200	TINKER OSMASTON 35 (D,F,S) (J Luff) R Hodges 6-9-6	S Drowne	77
8	(13)	1100300	WATCH THE FIRE 23 (D,F,G,S) (E Carter) J Banks 4-9-6	R Cochrane	81
9	(19)	0-40205	STATOYORK 116 (F) (J Fretwell) D Shaw 4-9-3	J Fanning	76
10	(4)	4100200	MIDNIGHT SHIFT 32 (D,G) (C Mills) R Guest 3-9-3	K Fallon	73
11	(3)	0020660	BAYIN 22 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (T Barker) M Usher 8-9-2	R Street	78
12	(12)	0000500	RAMSEY HOPE 27 (V,D,F) (C Barber-Lomax) C Fairhurst 4-9-2	N Kennedy	66
13	(8)	0040030	SUPERBIT 22 (D,F,G,S) (N Smith) B McMahon 5-9-1	L Newton	67
14	(17)	2544415	NEWLANDS CORNER 42 (B,D,F) (Jolly Skolars) J Akehurst 4-9-1	D Biggs	72
15	(7)	1000603	ROCKCRACKER 22 (B,D,F) (P Aaron) G Margarson 5-8-11	M Henry (3)	65
16	(16)	0000000	U-NO-HARRY 5 (CD,F) (D Coppenhall) R Hollinshead 4-8-11	F Lynch	66
17	(5)	0000014	GENERAL SIR PETER 32 (B,F,G,S) N Callaghan 5-8-10	Amanda Sanders	75
18	(21)	140	BONYALUA MILL 179 (D) (Mrs B Jeffery) A Streeter 3-8-9	R Havlin (3)	—
19	(10)	565003	DOUBLE MARCH 26 (Mrs P Scott-Dunn) K Ivory 4-8-6	G Faulkner (5)	68
20	(20)	1250000	AL REET 14 (D,S) (Gemini Partnership 4) S Bowring 6-8-6	Dale Gibson	64
21	(2)	0322211	GAY BREEZE 30 (C,D,F,G) (P Felgate) P Felgate 4-8-7	J Fowle (7)	76
22	(9)	600000	BATALEUR 22 (B,D,S) (M Worth) G Woodward 4-8-7	G Carter	73

BETTING: 7-1 General Sir Peter, 8-1 Royal Dome, Newlands Corner, Rockcracker, 10-1 Roffey Spinney, Corniche Quest, Bayin, Gay Breeze, 12-1 others.

1996: BAYIN 7-9-12 R Street (5-1 fav) M Usher 21 ran

FORM FOCUS Royal Dome 1l 2nd to Swino in 5f Redcar stakes (good to firm). Roffey Spinney 1¾l 3rd to Topton in 6f Folkestone stakes (good) with Broadstairs Beauty (3lb better off) 5l 6th. Corniche Quest 3¼l 6th to Afaan in 5f Pontefract handicap (good to soft). Midnight Shift 9¼l 9th to Khalaaq in 7f Goodwood handicap (good). Newlands Corner 2l 5th to Mouche in 6f Nottingham handicap (good to firm). Rockcracker neck 3rd to Magic Lake in course and distance handicap (good to firm) with Bayin (7lb better off) 6¼l 10th, Bataleur (9lb better off) 9¼l 16th and Superbit (6lb better off) 10l 17th. General Sir Peter ½l 4th of 17 to Mon Bruce in handicap 0-70 at Pontefract (5f, good to firm) with Bataleur (5lb better off) 1¾l 7th. Corniche Quest (3lb better off) 2l 9th and Royal Dome (same terms) 3l 11th. Double March 1l 3rd to Rebellion in 6f Salisbury apprentices' handicap (good). Al Reet 17l 13th to Literary in 1m Leicester handicap (soft). Gay Breeze beat Oxbane ¾l in 6f Yarmouth handicap (good to firm) with Bayin (7lb better off) 2¾l 6th and Rockcracker (2lb better off) 9l 11th.

ROYAL DOME remains in form and is the class act here

☐ Second Empire, the promising Aidan O'Brien-trained colt, has been cut from 10-1 to 6-1 with Coral for next season's Vodafone Derby at Epsom.

Clark to appeal against ban

TONY CLARK will lodge an appeal against the five-day ban he picked up after a three-horse pile-up in the Dick Dawson Nursery at Newbury on Saturday.

The incident occurred 150 yards out when Clark's mount, Beware, and Who Nose, the eventual first and second, veered towards each other as they pressed for the line. In the interference that followed The Boy John, Moonstone and Perfect Harmony were all brought down.

Chris Rutter, the rider of Perfect Harmony, sustained a broken wrist in the mishap, but the other two jockeys involved, Richard Quinn and Warren O'Connor, escaped unscathed.

After the subsequent stewards' inquiry Clark and apprentice Gabriel Hannon, who rode the runner-up, were both found guilty of careless riding. Hannon was banned for nine days (November 3-4, 6-8, 10, 13-15) and Clark five days (November 3-4, 6-8).

The officials found that Beware had interfered with third-placed Hill Magic and then interfered with Perfect Harmony. They also found that Who Nose had interfered with The Boy John. But they ruled that in neither case had the interference improved their placings.

"Tony will definitely be appealing and Robert Armstrong (Beware's trainer) will be supporting him," Peter Harris, the rider's agent, said. "Tony is one of the strongest jockeys going and had his whip in the correct hand. He did everything he could to hold together a tired two-year-old racing on bad ground." However, Hannon has ruled out an appeal.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: STEP ON DEGAS
(4.20 Lingfield Park)
Next best: Meshhed
(3.00 Leicester)

TOWCESTER

THUNDERER
1.40 Damas. 2.10 Funcheon Gale. 2.40 Jamaican Flight. 3.10 Jim Valentine. 3.40 Snow Board. 4.10 Young Dalesman.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

1.40 FOXLEY NOVICES SELLING HURDLE
(£1,989: 2m) (9 runners)

1	6/12	DAMAS 5 (B,BF,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 6-11-10	A P McCoy
2	8	DEPECHE-TOI 17 G McCourt 6-10-10	D J Moffatt
3	2-	NORTHERN GREY 20F (V) A Carroll 5-10-10	T J Murphy
4	4-5P	ORCHARD KING 6 (V) G McCourt 7-10-10	D Bridgwater
5	F-N	ROYAL HAND 18 (V) R Armson 7-10-10	Mr R Armson
6	056	SUL FOSSO 56 Mrs S Smith 5-10-10	R Guest
7	50/	AMONG ISLANDS 12F (BF) R Lee 6-10-5	A Maguire
8		LA BELLE SHYANNE 428F R Hodges 6-10-5	J Harris (7)
9	4/0A	MARGI BOO 16 (BF) M Sheppard 4-10-4	R Johnson

Damas, 3-1 Margi Boo, 11-2 Northern Grey, 13-2 Sul Fosso, 10-1 Orchard King, Royal Hand, 14-1 Among Islands, 20-1 others.

2.10 SHUTLANGER HANDICAP CHASE
([illegible] 3m 1f) (5)

1	[illegible]	FUNCHEON GALE 143 (C,F,G,S) R Curtis 10-11-11	D Morris
2	[illegible]	SANKTOWN BILL 20 (V,BF,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 8-11-5	A P McCoy
3	[illegible]	THE WHOLE HOG 22 (BF,F) K Bailey 8-10-6	N Williamson
4	[illegible]	FOREST MUSK 21 (BF,F) P Hobbs 6-10-3	B Powell
5	[illegible]	COUNT BARACHOIS 19 (C,F,G) Mrs E Heath 9-10-0	D Gallagher

[illegible] 7-2 The Whole Hog, Forest Musk, 4-1 Count Barachois, 9-2 [illegible]

2.40 AKELEY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,[illegible]: 2m) (5)

1	[illegible]	MOSCOW EXPRESS 298 (D,F,G,S) D Nicholson 5-11-12	A Maguire
2	[illegible]	JAMAICAN FLIGHT 16 (BF,CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Lamyman 4-11-4	N Williamson
3	[illegible]	DANA POINT 241 (D,G) Mrs S Smith 5-11-3	R Guest
4	[illegible]	SPRINTFAYRE 226 (BF,CD,F,G,S) J Long 9-10-0	D Gallagher
5	[illegible]	GIPSY GEOF 16 G Hubbard 6-10-0	R Johnson

[illegible] Express, 11-4 Dana Point, 9-2 Jamaican Flight, 12-1 Sprintfayre, [illegible]

3.10 NORMAN CROSS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,864: 2m 110yd) (5)

1	3F12	FAUSTINO 14 (BF,F) P Hobbs 5-11-10	A P McCoy
2	1012	DUBELLE 34 (BF,D,F,G) J King 7-11-6	J Culloty
3	-F53	CRACKLING FROST 20 (C,F,G) Mrs D Haine 9-11-5	Mr R Wakley (5)
4	2184	JIM VALENTINE 19 (C,F,G,S) D Wintle 11-10-12	W Marston
5	2P-2	PARLIAMENTARIAN 29 (G) T Casey 8-10-9	D Gallagher

13-8 Faustino, 7-2 Dubelle, 5-1 Crackling Frost, Jim Valentine, Parliamentarian.

3.40 DADFORD NOVICES CHASE
(£3,181: 2m 6f) (5)

1	00P2	AIRBORNE BLUE 63 J Jenkins 8-10-12	W Marston
2	R-P0	ICE MAGIC 10 (V) P Yardley 10-10-12	B Fenton
3	5/0/	OLIVER'S SECRET 851 M Pipe 7-10-12	A P McCoy
4	6-54	PRIDEAUX PRINCE 10 (G) M Sheppard 11-10-12	R Johnson
5	1P-6	SNOW BOARD 8 (F,S) Mrs M Jones 8-10-12	D Byrne

7-4 Snow Board, 3-1 Airborne Blue, 4-1 Oliver's Secret, 6-1 Ice Magic, Prideaux Prince.

4.10 DUNCOTE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,462: 2m 5f) (9)

1	1465	YOUNG DALESMAN 16 (G) A Streeter 4-11-10	T Eley
2	9/03	ALIAS CHUBB 12 Mrs S Smith 6-11-7	R Guest
3	SF-1	KAREN'S TYPHOON 18 (C,G) T McGovern 6-11-1	A P McCoy
4	-032	SPIRAL FLYER 21 M Usher 4-10-7	W McFarland
5	404-	BROWN WREN 228 P Hobbs 6-10-5	G Tormey
6	-504	MY WARRIOR 15 (F) M Campion 9-10-4	B Powell
7	000-	DINGLE WOOD 286 N Lampard 7-10-2	A Bates (5)
8	045-	ANNIE RUTH 158 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-1	R Farrant
9	3290	WICKENS ONE 13 D Gandolfo 7-10-0	R Supple

9-4 Karen's Typhoon, 7-2 Young Dalesman, 5-1 Alias Chubb, 6-1 Brown Wren, 8-1 Spiral Flyer, 10-1 My Warrior, 14-1 Dingle Wood, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Nicholson, 25 winners from 65 runners, 38.5%; Mrs M Jones, 4 from 13, 30.8%; J Long, 3 from 10, 30.0%; R Curtis, 6 from 21, 28.6%; R Hodges, 6 from 22, 27.3%; T McGovern, 3 from 12, 25.0%.

JOCKEYS: D Morris, 6 winners from 19 rides, 31.6%; A Maguire, 22 from 74, 29.7%; A P McCoy, 9 from 45, 20.0%; N Williamson, 12 from 60, 20.0%; D Byrne, 3 from 17, 17.6%; D Gallagher, 10 from 60, 16.7%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
12.50 Dancing Feather. 1.20 Confidante. 1.50 Celtic Pageant. 2.20 Secret Bourne. 2.50 Khalas. 3.20 CORTACHY CASTLE (nap). 3.50 Keen Waters. 4.20 Matoaka.

Timekeeper's top rating: 1.50 CELTIC PAGEANT.

Newmarket Correspondent: 3.20 TITANIC (nap).

GOING: GOOD — SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F (TURF), HIGH NUMBERS BEST

12.50 GRAHAM POTTER HANDICAP
(AW: 3-Y-O: £2,966: 1m 2f) (11 runners)

1	(7)	1503	SODEN 27 (CD,F) T Mills 9-7	T Williams	70
2	(5)	3002	KAFIL 26 G L Moore 9-3	A Clark	72
3	(2)	0104	CASTLES BURNING 27 (C,F) C Cyzer 9-3	J Weaver	68
4	(8)	4300	DANCING FEATHER 35 B Hills 8-12	R Hills	[illegible]
5	(11)	560	ISABELLA GONZAGA 13 J Dunlop 8-10	T Quinn	50
6	(8)	5000	SHADED 9J (E) S Dow 8-5	P Doe (7)	72
7	(10)	0636	LOCHLASS 4 (B) S Woods 8-5	N Day	62
8	(4)	5-50	PASSION 9 T Mills 8-2	Lisa Hackett (7)	—
9	(6)	6044	ERINBINCA 30 (V) J Banks 7-11	J Quinn	47
10	(3)	4562	AVANTI BLUE 7 K McAuliffe 7-10	Martin Dwyer	70
11	(1)	0000	TREVOR MITCHELL 28 J Bridger 7-10	N Adams	69

11-4 Avanti Blue, 4-1 Kafil, 9-2 Soden, 11-2 Castles Burning, 7-1 Isabella Gonzaga, 10-1 Lochlass, 14-1 Dancing Feather, 16-1 others.

1.20 EBF MONICA BARNES BIRTHDAY MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (Div I: 2-Y-O: £3,143: 7f) (10)

1	(2)	0	AZULINO 73 J Hills 8-11	J Reid	57
2	(3)	2202	CHOCOLATE 13 (B) J Dunlop 8-11	T Quinn	[illegible]
3	(10)		CONFIDANTE M Stoute 8-11	W Ryan	—
4	(8)	0	COOL WATERS 20 J Arnold 8-11	A Clark	—
5	(5)		HOUSEKEEPER R Charlton 8-11	T Sprake	—
6	(6)	0	MAGIC SPRING 87 K McAuliffe 8-11	G Hind	56
7	(7)		MOTHERS HELP H Candy 8-11	N Adams	—
8	(1)	-25	RED RABBIT 40 (BF) B Hills 8-11	R Hills	84
9	(9)		SHARERA L Cumani 8-11	J Weaver	—
10	(4)	0	SWINGTIME 14 A Foster 8-11	R Perham	82

5-2 Confidante, 7-2 Red Rabbit, 4-1 Chocolate, 11-2 Sharera, 7-1 Housekeeper, 16-1 Azulino, Magic Spring, 20-1 others

1.50 EBF TAUBER MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O: £3,143: 7f) (10)

1	(8)	2302	CELTIC PAGEANT 13 (BF) R Akehurst 8-11	T Quinn	[illegible]
2	(4)	04	CHRYSOLITE 22 B Hills 8-11	R Hills	73
3	(10)	0	DERRYQUIN 75 R Charlton 8-11	T Sprake	74
4	(6)	4	ELLWAY PRINCE 136 (BF) I Balding 8-11	Martin Dwyer	75
5	(2)	020	FREE OPTION 11 B Hanbury 8-11	W Ryan	84
6	(9)	500	HICKORY 96 M Haynes 8-11	R Ffrench (3)	95
7	(7)	6	HOPEFUL STAR 29 Miss G Kelleway 8-11	A Whelan (3)	62
8	(1)		MISTER TRICKY P Mitchell 8-11	J Weaver	—
9	(5)	0	PADDY DEUX 12 V Soane 8-11	J Reid	28
10	(3)	00	ZADA 4 G L Moore 8-11	A Clark	57

2-1 Celtic Pageant, 3-1 Ellway Prince, 5-1 Free Option, 11-2 Chrysolite, 10-1 Derryquin, 12-1 Hopeful Star, 20-1 Hickory, 25-1 others

2.20 EBF MONICA BARNES BIRTHDAY MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (Div II: 2-Y-O: £3,114: 7f) (10)

1	(6)	0	ANNOUNCING PEACE 21 (B) C Dwyer 8-11	A Garth	64
2	(7)	06	CALEDONIAN EXPRESS 14 J Dunlop 8-11	T Sprake	77
3	(10)	6	GROSVENOR SPIRIT 20 P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Reid	74
4	(9)	-0	HEVER GOLF PASSION 46 T Naughton 8-11	A McGlone	73
5	(8)		MADJAMILA L Cumani 8-11	R Ffrench (3)	—
6	(4)		PERIDOT J Gosden 8-11	G Hind	—
7	(3)	3	PURSUIT VENTURE 14 S Woods 8-11	N Day	[illegible]
8	(5)		SECRET BOURNE B Hills 8-11	R Hills	—
9	(1)	0	SHANTUNG 45 K McAuliffe 8-11	Martin Dwyer	69
10	(2)	6	SURE QUEST 14 D Arbuthnot 8-11	S Whitworth	65

3-1 Pursuit Venture, 5-1 Madjamila, Peridot, Secret Bourne, 6-1 others

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Leicester: 2.00 Zuryaf. Lingfield Park: 12.50 Erinbinca, Shaded. 2.20 Announcing Peace. 3.20 Legs Be Frendly. Towcester: 1.40 Northern Grey, Orchard King

2.50 EBF TAUBER MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O: £3,143: 7f) (9)

1	(7)		DIVVINAYSHAN R Armstrong 8-11	F Norton	—
2	(1)	0	FRANKLIN LAKES 11 C Horgan 8-11	Paul Eddery	68
3	(3)	022	KHALAS 46 (BF) B Hills 8-11	R Hills	[illegible]
4	(9)		KING SLAYER B Smart 8-11	J Stack	—
5	(2)	0	OMAR'S ODYSSEY 20 P Mitchell 8-11	A Clark	53
6	(4)		PRINCE OF SALSA K McAuliffe 8-11	G Hind	—
7	(5)		RED SHIFT R Hannon 8-11	J Reid	—
8	(8)		RISING MANE D Elsworth 8-11	T Sprake	—
9	(6)	0	STORM CRY 112 D Chappell 8-11	A McGlone	62

10-11 Khalas, 7-2 Divvinayshan, 8-1 Red Shift, 10-1 Storm Cry, 12-1 Rising Mane, 16-1 King Slayer, Prince of Salsa. 25-1 others.

3.20 BURR STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,653: 5f) (8)

1	(3)	1163	TITANIC 44 (D,F) J Gosden 9-7	G Hind	90
2	(7)	1226	CORTACHY CASTLE 66 (D,F) B Meehan 9-1	M Tebbutt	[illegible]
3	(1)	4220	LEGS BE FRENDLY 18 (B) K McAuliffe 8-11	J Reid	97
4	(5)	2015	MANTLES PRIDE 5 (D,F) G Lewis 8-11	Paul Eddery	98
5	(2)	4005	REGALO 12 D Hyde 8-11	A McGlone	75
6	(6)	0411	RARE INDIGO 10 (D,S) J Berry 8-10	P Fessey (3)	101
7	(8)	42	ENGLISH LADY 163 M Haynes 8-6	M Connolly (7)	89
8	(4)	0130	SUPER GEIL 9 (D) C Dwyer 8-6	D O'Donohoe	82

11-10 Titanic, 3-1 Cortachy Castle, 6-1 Rare Indigo, 8-1 Mantles Pride, 10-1 Legs Be Frendly, 16-1 English Lady, 25-1 Super Geil, 50-1 Regalo

3.50 ELM HANDICAP
(All-weather: £3,356: 1m 4f) (14)

1	(8)	2200	MYSTIC QUEST 23 (V) K McAuliffe 3-9-10	J Weaver	[illegible]
2	(4)	0106	ENGLISH INVADER 21 (C,D,S) C Dwyer 6-9-6	D O'Donohoe	57
3	(12)	450	DUNABRATTIN 12 D Thom 4-9-2	M Wigham	46
4	(1)	1540	HAROLDON 26 (D,F,G) B Palling 8-9-2	T Sprake	53
5	(5)	4100	AWESOME POWER 166 (C,G) J Hills 11-8-9	R Hills	47
6	(14)	2111	HARLEQUIN WALK 14J (CD,F,G) R O'Sullivan 6-8-8	J Quinn	61
7	(6)	2500	REHAAB 38 (V,F) Miss B Sanders 4-8-7	A Clark	60
8	(9)	-530	CHARLIE CHANG 49 (G) B Llewellyn 4-8-3	T Williams	45
9	(3)	3000	UONI 20J P Butler 4-8-1	J Bramhill	—
10	(11)	1040	DUNCOMBE HALL 9 (G) C Cyzer 4-8-1	A Whelan (3)	57
11	(7)	0003	KRAYYAN DAWN 20 (C,D,F) J Akehurst 7-7-13	R Ffrench (3)	60
12	(10)	1630	COLOUR COUNSELLOR 7J (B,D,F,G) R Flower 4-7-10	Martin Dwyer	57
13	(13)	0020	STRENGTH OF VISION 34 C Egerton 3-7-10	P Fessey (3)	54
14	(2)	1440	KEEN WATERS 20 (D,F) Mrs S Williams 3-7-10	A Polli (5)	59

6-4 Harlequin Walk, 8-1 Colour Counsellor, 10-1 English Invader, Duncombe Hall, 12-1 Haroldon, 14-1 Awesome Power, Rehaab, Strength of Vision, 16-1 others

4.20 FALLING LEAF LIMITED STAKES
(All-weather: £2,277: 7f) (16)

1	(16)	0000	THE FUGATIVE 29 (G,S) P Mitchell 4-9-3	N Day	77
2	(10)	1000	INVOCATION 27 (CD,F) G L Moore 10-9-2	A Clark	80
3	(2)	3100	IVOR'S DEED 31 (D,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-2	A Whelan (3)	66
4	(5)	3512	PEGASUS BAY 29 (BF,F) Miss A Embiricos 6-9-2	R Hills	69
5	(9)	0654	SWIFT 12 (D,F,G) M Polglase 3-9-2	J Tate	77
6	(4)	4303	AKALIM 12 (F) L Cottrell 4-9-0	A Daly (3)	78
7	(13)	0006	ANOKATO 25 (F) K Ivory 3-9-0	Martin Dwyer	81
8	(1)	0400	EVERSET 86 (B,C,D,F,G) A Bailey 9-9-0	D Wright	88
9	(12)	2030	ORANGE PLACE 31 (D,F) B Llewellyn 6-9-0	T Williams	92
10	(11)	5120	STEP ON DEGAS 33 (BF,CD,F) M F-Godley 4-8-13	R Ffrench (3)	90
11	(15)	3000	ICE AGE 25 (F) R Williams 3-8-12	N Carlisle	84
12	(8)	0-00	PALISANDER 52 (E) S Dow 3-8-12	P Doe (7)	64
13	(7)	5261	MATOAKA 28 (F) V Soane 3-8-11	J Reid	79
14	(3)	0400	DAYLIGHT DREAMS 7 (G) C Cyzer 3-8-9	J Weaver	74
15	(14)	000	MISCONDUCT 115 G L Moore 3-8-9	S Whitworth	44
16	(6)	0005	POLGWYNNE 35 (CD) B Smart 3-8-9	J Stack	70

9-2 Akalim, 6-1 Matoaka, 7-1 Anokato, 8-1 Pegasus Bay, Step On Degas, 10-1 Ivor's Deed, Swift, Orange Place, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: V Soane, 3 winners from 11 runners, 27.3%; J Gosden, 18 from 71, 25.4%; B Hanbury, 10 from 48, 20.8%; L Cumani, 6 from 29, 20.7%; J Berry, 34 from 166, 20.5%; M Stoute, 15 from 76, 19.7%; R Armstrong, 17 from 90, 18.9%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 86 winners from 401 rides, 21.4%; R Hills, 17 from 85, 20.0%; W Ryan, 31 from 196, 15.8%; T Quinn, 49 from 320, 15.3%; J Reid, 25 from 163, 15.3%; G Hind, 11 from 74, 14.9%.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Doncaster

Going: good

1.40 (7f) 1, Florazi (M J Kinane, 4-1 fav); 2, Lido (12-1); 3, Inchalong (6-1) 14 ran. NR Praetonan Gold. Nk, 2l. J Dunlop. Tote: £5.20; £2.20, £3.30, £1.30. DF: £28.70 Trio: £83.70. CSF: £44.70. Tricast: £268.48.

2.10 (1m 2f 60yd) 1, Time For Action (J Weaver, 10-1); 2, Ordained (10-1); 3, Billy Bushwacker (3-1 fav) 14 ran NR Karttikeya. 9l, 1½l M Tompkins. Tote: £12.10; £3.40, £2.20, £1.50 DF: £67.90 Trio: £89.90 CSF: £98.60

2.40 (5f) 1, Rudi's Pet (O Peslier, 20-1); 2, Perryston View (7-1); 3, Faraway Lass (16-1); 4, Repertory (20-1). Crowded Avenue 5-1 fav. 22 ran. 2½l, sh hd. R Hannon. Tote: £24.80; £5.70, £2.60, £4.00, £5.30. DF: £116.20. Trio: £634.00. CSF: £126.44 Tricast: £2,188.87.

3.10 (7f) 1, Jo Mell (O Peslier, 11-8 fav); 2, Swiss Law (2-1); 3, Nigrasine (8-1) 5 ran NR: Elegant Warning. 1¾l, ½l T Easterby. Tote: £2.30; £1.40, £1.40. DF: £1.80 CSF: £3.94.

3.40 (1m) 1, Saratoga Springs (M J Kinane, 9-2); 2, Mudeer (9-2); 3, Mutamam (13-2) Kilimanjaro 7-2 fav. 8 ran. Sh hd, 1l. A O'Brien. Tote: £4.40; £2.10, £1.80, £2.50 DF: £11.50. CSF: £23.20.

4.15 (6f) 1, Ikhteyaar (R Hills, 9-4 fav). 2, Special Treat (10-1), 3, Deterrent (4-1). 10 ran. ¾l, sh hd. R Armstrong. Tote: £3.00; £1.60, £2.40, £1.50. DF £14.50 Trio: £17.40 CSF: £22.96.

4.45 (1m 4f) 1, Al Azhar (A McGlone, 8-1); 2, Vendian (11-1); 3, Pekay (16-1); 4, Oops Pettie (12-1). Zerpour 11-4 fav 17 ran. NR Invermark. 1½l, hd. I Balding. Tote: £9.90; £2.00, £2.00, £3.50, £2.10. DF: £30.20. Trio: £225.20. CSF: £87.18 Tricast: £1,289.18.

Jackpot: £255,534.10 (part won. Pool of £3,599.07 carried forward to Leicester today).

Placepot: £61.80.

Quadpot: £11.20.

Newbury

1.30 1, Ffestiniog (14-1); 2, Amabel (11-1), 3, Leggera (8-1). Bristol Channel 100-30 fav. 13 ran.

2.00 1, Prince Of Denial (4-1 fav); 2, Strazo (13-2); 3, Zalitzine (11-1). 15 ran.

2.30 1, Kallana (7-2); 2, Kutta (11-2); 3, Busy Flight (9-4 fav). 10 ran. NR: Proper Blue

3.00 1, Distant Mirage (4-7 fav); 2, Evander (7-1); 3, Komistar (7-2) 5 ran.

3.30 1, Raise A Prince (6-1); 2, Protocol (100-30), 3, Story Line (7-2) Once More For Luck 3-1 fav. 8 ran. NR: Mountaineer

4.00 1, Beware (14-1); 2, Who Nose (33-1); 3, Hill Magic (20-1); 4, Tulich Refrain (25-1). Robin Goodfellow 7-2 fav. 19 ran

4.30 1, Flying Bold (10-1), 2, Acebo Lyons (10-1); 3, Bettron (12-1) Man-Ela 11-2 fav 14 ran.

Carlisle

1.50 1, Spanish Verdict (5-1). 2, Spiders Delight (16-1); 3, Run For The Mill (25-1) Silverdale Lad 8-11 fav 7 ran NR: Lord Of The Loch

2.20 1, Jennie's Prospect (2-1); 2, Dont Forget Curtis (12-1); 3, Recruitment (7-1). He's Got Wings 4-6 fav 6 ran

2.50 1, Pentlands Flyer (4-7 fav), 2, Well Appointed (9-4); 3, Jaunty General (14-1). 7 ran.

3.20 1, Kinda Groovy (7-1); 2, Four From Home (9-4), 3, Gale Ahead (7-4 fav) 5 ran

3.55 1, Lord Of The West (6-4), 2, Boarding School (4-1); 3, Fiveleigh Builds (Evens fav) 3 ran.

4.25 1, Supertop (5-4 fav); 2, Highland Way (10-1); 3, Down The Fell (11-2) 6 ran.

5.00 1, Sotattie (7-4); 2, Tuzo (6-1); 3, Mr Kelburne (Evens fav). 5 ran. NR: Valhalla.

Market Rasen

2.15 1, Oakbury (8-1); 2, African Sun (16-1); 3, Xaipete (100-30). John Tufty 6-4 fav. 8 ran.

2.45 1, Hoh Warrior (4-1); 2, Cheryl's Lad (11-4 fav), 3, Tom Brodie (3-1). 6 ran

3.15 1, Smith Too (9-1); 2, Couchant (4-7 fav); 3, Nocatchim (33-1) 5 ran.

3.50 1, Hermes Harvest (14-1), 2, Highbeath (4-6 fav); 3, Rhossili Bay (8-1). 5 ran

4.20 1, Indiana Princess (14-1); 2, Golden Thunderbolt (10-1); 3, As You Like It (16-1) Traceability 9-4 fav 19 ran NR Shark

4.50 1, Symbol Of Success (5-1); 2, Johns The Boy (11-4); 3, Double Achievement (20-1). Galen 2-1 fav 9 ran.

5.20 1, Bigsound (15-8 fav); 2, Mr Jake (8-1), 3, Elapsecoll (6-1) 17 ran.

Worcester

2.35 1, Northern Drums (8-13 fav); 2, Galway Boss (3-1); 3, White Willow (20-1) 6 ran- NR: Honeybed Wood

3.05 1, No Light (5-4 fav); 2, Sigma Run (100-30) Only two finished. 3 ran

3.35 1, Rowlington (2-5 fav); 2, Certain Shot (7-2); 3, Life's Work (15-2). 6 ran.

4.10 1, Strong Tarquin (13-8 fav): 2, Highland Jack (7-4) Only two finished 3 ran

4.40 1, Northern Starlight (8-11 fav); 2, Morstock (7-4); 3, Dontleavethenest (11-2) 4 ran NR: Jaicanto.

5.10 1, Silver Standard (13-2), 2, Cassio's Boy (100-30); 3, Soldat (4-5 fav) 4 ran

FLAT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	[illegible]	Level stakes
J Dunlop	93	87	59	2	-63.40
M Johnston	89	92	67	5	-93.64
J Gosden	86	55	63	5	-64.40

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
K Fallon	186	132	113	20	+99.60
L Dettori	167	118	99	13	-27.74
K Darley	127	105	93	4	-59.20

RAPID RACELINE
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
LEICESTER 101 201
LINGFIELD 102 202
TOWCESTER 103 203
IRISH 120 220
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168
Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. [illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

WORLD SERIES: Florida 1 Cleveland 4 (best-of-seven series tied at 3-3)

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester 95 Watford 82

UNI-BALL TROPHY: Derby 85 Manchester 86, Birmingham 92 Crystal Palace 67

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Mid Sussex 69 Coventry 77, Nottingham 67 Stevenage 61; Oxford 81 Cardiff 55, Richmond 93 Plymouth 88, Westminster 67 Guildford 91. Second division: Cardiff C 74 Solent 85. Third division: Birmingham 52 Leicester 53; Southampton 57 Stoke 91; Ware 67 Taunton 87. Women: First division: Birmingham 69 N W London 43, Ipswich 60 Northampton 91; Leicester 59 Spelthorne 66, Sheffield 73 Thames Valley 41. Second division: Chelmsford 59 Liverpool 46; Doncaster 58 Wandsworth 43, Manchester 68 Plymouth 34; Sheffield 72 Tyne and Wear 65. Postponed: Richmond v South Wales.

BOWLS

DENNY CUP: Second round: Whiteknights bt Brackley 102-53, Harts bt Harpenden 89-65. West Berks bt Banbury 86-72, Watford bt Bletchley 108-88, Isis bt Stoke Mandeville 99-61; Handy Cross bt Slade 91-70, Luton bt Fonthill 69-63. Gosling bt Stevenage 73-70; Bristol bt Clarine Dunbar 93-50; Swindon Westlecot bt Bentham 83-68, Thamesdown bt North Wilts 76-68. Christie Miller bt Malvern Hills 84-56. Cotswold bt Bromsgrove 74-73; Yate bt Leominster 84-69; Clevedon bt Fairford 92-70, Moonfleet bt Bridport 110-54; Weston St Andrews bt Stour Vale 98-68, Dorchester bt Taunton Deane 95-63. Donyatt bt Bridgwater BCL 93-66; Minehead bt Taunton 92-53; Woodspring bt Fosseway 92-72. Ilminster bt Yeovil 90-80. Wellworthy bt Mendip 78-66, Newquay bt Mid Devon 108-46; Isca bt Exmouth Madeira 101-68. Torbay bt North Devon 82-65. Plymouth Mayflower bt Exonia 87-86. Cammoggas bt Padbrook Park 98-74, Plymouth CS bt Sidmouth 101-66; Teignbridge bt Torquay 110-33; Newcastle bt Concordia 88-60; Cumbria bt Hebburn 100-57. Stanley bt Gateshead 80-68. South Shields bt Houghton 103-51, Great Aycliffe bt Durham 107-62; Blackpool Borough bt New Earswick 114-46; Scunthorpe bt North Cave 76-69. Metrodome bt Featherstone 100-56; Selby bt Huddersfield 80-77. Hull bt Old Mill Leisure 94-68, York bt Scarborough 111-59; Blackpool Newton Hall bt Ryedale 76-73; Blackburn bt Swinton 101-80; Boston bt Dunholme 105-54; Spalding bt Grantham 82-63; Bassetlaw bt Louth 97-59; Lincoln bt Rushcliffe 87-68; South Forest bt East Lindsey 86-60; Long Sutton bt West Lindsey 80-78, Nottingham bt Erewash 82-75. Cambridge Chesterton bt Lawson Park 89-69, Peterborough bt City of Ely 81-80; Mid Suffolk bt Sudbury 96-64; Huntingdon bt West Row 99-61; Bedford Borough bt Cambridge and County 78-75, Ross Poers bt Wisbech 88-85, Risbygate beat Felixstowe & Suffolk 94-67, Church Gresley bt Birmingham 95-70; St Neots bt Brandon 80-78; Avon Valley bt Charnwood 86-49; Carlton bt Welford-on-Avon 84-76, Melton Mowbray bt Rushden 79-66; Wellingborough bt Desborough (Northampton) 91-72; Leicester bt Coventry 82-75; Pinewood Park bt Acle 88-67, County Arts bt Roundwood 84-71; Lynnsport bt Great Yarmouth 96-74. Gallow bt Bowlers (Dereham) 98-55; Wymondham Dell bt Norfolk 80-72. Diss bt Shotford 88-68. Falcon bt Southend 84-67; Tilbury bt Cheshunt 104-58; Hatfield bt Barking 77-73; Ipswich bt Colchester 84-71. Essex County bt Tye Green 87-70; Jacks Centre bt Bishops Stortford 82-81, Havering bt Towerlands 114-59. Ilford bt Clacton 80-61; Wey Valley bt Picketts Lock 92-61, Paddington bt King George Field 80-70. Hounslow bt Richmond 79-70; Cambridge Park bt Egham 103-64. Camberley bt Mansfield 75-74; The Lawns bt Elmbridge 73-69; Century bt Loddon Vale 71-58; Old Coulsdon bt Temple 107-45, Croydon bt Mole Valley 110-57; Mole Park bt Brixton 107-51; Crystal Palace bt White Oak 94-55, Sevenoaks bt Cyphers 82-81; Sutton bt Prince Arthur 72-71; Margate bt Royal Tunbridge Wells 82-67. Oyster bt Eastbourne 84-70. Folkestone bt Egerton Park 95-68; Preston (Brighton) bt King Alfred 104-58. Gulivers bt Langney 80-63; Graftons bt Stour 93-64 Angel (Tonbridge) bt Horsham 101-48. Bournemouth bt Adur 90-73, Five Rivers bt Worthing 74-72; Arun bt Isle of Purbeck 96-53, Victory bt Isle of Wight 87-60. Dolphin bt Havant 79-66; Worthing Pavilion wo Warriers (Bembridge) scratched. East Dorset bt SPR and IOW 128-55; Atherley bt Banister Park 84-75.

BOXING

DEESIDE LEISURE CENTRE, North Wales: Vacant British bantamweight championship: P Lloyd (Ellesmere Port) bt F Ampofo (Bethnal Green) pts (Lloyd also retained his Commonwealth title). Cruiserweight (6rnds): A Gurov (Ukr) bt T Small (Birmingham) rsc 6th. Super-middleweight (8rnds): C Woods (Sheffield) bt D Juma (Belfast) pts. Middleweight (4rnds): C Winter (Warrington) bt G Richards (Birmingham) rsc 2nd. Light-middleweight (6rnds): A Dottouey (Russ) bt J Vincent (Birmingham) pts. Lightweight (4rnds). T Tontchev (Bul) bt K Taylor (Birmingham) pts

ZARAGOZA: European lightweight championship: B Schwer (Luton) bt O Garcia Cano (Sp, holder) rsc 10th

BUDAPEST: World amateur championships: Finals: 91kg: R Chagayev (Uzb) bt F Savon (Cuba) 14-4. 75kg: Z Erdei (Hun) bt A Hernandez (Cuba) 8-2. 67kg: O Saitov (Russ) bt S Dzinziruk (Ukr) 2-1. 60kg: A Maletin (Russ) bt T Usumen (Mong) 15-7. 64kg: R Malakhbekov (Russ) bt W Font (Cuba) 18-6. 51kg: M Mantilla (Cuba) bt I Razzapov (Russ) 18-3. 48kg: M Romero (Cuba) bt R Velasco (Phil) 9-1.

CRICKET

Third Test match

Pakistan v South Africa

FAISALABAD (third day of five): Pakistan, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 142 runs to beat South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 239 (G Kirsten 100 not out, Wasim Akram 4-42)

A M Bacher lbw b Mushtaq	14
G Kirsten c Mushtaq b Wasim	4
B M McMillan c Moin b Mushtaq	21
P L Symcox lbw b Saqlain	55
D J Cullinan lbw b Mushtaq	15
*W J Cronje c Azhar b Waqar	21
S M Pollock not out 21	
†D J Richardson lbw b Waqar	0
L Klusener lbw b Saqlain	38
A A Donald b Saqlain	8
P R Adams c and b Mushtaq	0
Extras (b 3, lb 13, nb 1)	17
Total (69 overs)	214

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-21, 3-63, 4-97, 5-140, 6-140, 7-140, 8-187, 9-201.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 11-0-46-1; Waqar Younis 14-2-43-2; Mushtaq Ahmed 22-6-57-4; Saqlain Mushtaq 15-6-38-3; Azhar Mehmood 7-2-16-0

PAKISTAN: First Innings

Ali Naqvi b Donald	11
*Saeed Anwar lbw b Pollock	3
Ijaz Ahmed lbw b Symcox	16
Inzamam-ul-Haq c McMillan b Cronje	96
Azhar Mehmood b Klusener	19
Wasim Akram c Richardson b Klusener	2
†Moin Khan b Cronje	80
Aamir Sohail c Donald b Pollock	38
Saqlain Mushtaq c Bacher b Adams	6
Waqar Younis c Cronje b Donald	34
Mushtaq Ahmed not out	0
Extras (lb 1, nb 1 w 1)	3
Total: (89.4overs)	308

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-18, 3-42, 4-74, 5-80, 6-224, 7-229, 8-246, 9-304

BOWLING: Donald 17.4-1-79-2; Pollock 20-5-64-2; Adams 23-5-69-1; Symcox 9-2-39-0; Klusener 8-1-30-2; McMillan 7-1-20-0; Cronje 5-3-6-2

Second Innings

Ali Naqvi not out	4
Aamir Sohail not	0
Total (no wkts)	4

BOWLING: Adams 2-1-4-0; Symcox 1-1-0-0.

Umpires: Steve Dunn (New Zealand) and Mian Aslam (Pakistan)

TOUR MATCHES: Cairns (final day of tour): New Zealand 198 and 248 (S P Fleming 82); Queensland 571-9 dec (M Love 201 retired hurt). (one day). Queensland 252-8 (A Symonds 75, J P Maher 72); New Zealand 125 (B A Young 46; P W Jackson 5-23).

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (final day of tour): Sydney: Victoria 509-6 dec and 279-8 dec (I J Harvey 109, G E Gardiner 56); New South Wales 407-4 dec and 225-3 (M J Slater 85, S R Waugh 60 not out). Perth: Western Australia 477-5 dec; South Australia 142 and 258 (G Blewett 76, B Julian 6-45)

CURLING

BERNE, Renault trophy tournament: Tie breaks: P Trulsen (Nor) bt W Smith (Scot) 6-4, C Schwaller (St Moritz) bt G Muirhead (Scot) 5-1. Quarter-finals: Schwaller bt E Ramsfjell (Nor) 9-8; K Martin (Can) bt P Nezlor (Switz) 7-6; H McMillan (Scot) bt Trulsen 6-3; O Herberg (Ger) bt W Wallace (Can) 9-7. Semi-finals: Schwaller bt McMillan 6-5; Martin bt Herberg 9-2. Final: Schwaller bt Martin 5-3. Third place play-off: McMillan bt Herberg 6-4.

CYCLING

Road racing

CAPE TOWN: Boland Bank International Tour: Final stage (Stellenbosch via Paarl to finish in Stellenbosch): 1, L de Louw (Holl) 2hrs 51min 56sec; 2, J Fullard (SA) at same time, 3, M Wust (Ger); 4, L Michaelsen (Den); 5, R Chyla (Ger) all at same time. Leading final overall positions: 1, Michaelsen 19hrs 09mins 55secs; 2, de Louw at 29sec; 3, M Backstedt (Swe) 1min; 4, D Ryder (SA) 1:07; 5, D George (SA) 1:08.

TWICKENHAM CC (Ottershaw, Surrey, 58 miles): 1, R Hurd (ASFRA Flanders) 2:15:37; 2, B Elcombe (Festival RC) at 1:35; 3, R Fenton (Colourtech RT) same time.

Cyclo-cross

MACCLESFIELD WHEELERS (South Park, 12.5 miles): 1, T Gould (Schwinn-Toyota) 1:01:45; 2, G Foord (Scott International) at 16sec; 3, C Anesley (Hope Technology) at 1:35

SALISBURY RC (Brook Farm, Timsbury, near Romsey, 11 miles): 1, R Rumbelow (Hargroves Cycles) 1:04:16; 2, P Rice (Army CU) at 52sec; 3, J Blann (Liphook) at 1:45

CLEVELAND WHEELERS (South Bank, Middlesbrough, 15 miles): 1, S Ward (VC Azzurri) 58:35; 2, N Clough (Caygill Cycles) at 30sec, 3, V Potter (Cycle Force, Durham) at 1:00.

EAST LIVERPOOL WHEELERS (Otterspool Park, 12 miles): 1, P Evans (Diamondbech) 54:15; 2, D Brailsford (Giant RT) at 24sec, 3, M Bailey (Team Chevin) same time.

Hill climb

RTTC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP (Rowsley Bar, Derbyshire, 1,864 yards): 1, S Dangerfield (Wheelbase CC) 5min 12.84sec (course record); 2, J Henderson (Oxford University CC) 5:19.29; 3, J Wright (North East RT) 5:22.88. Team: Wheelbase CC (S Dangerfield, M Andrew, C Golightly) 17:49.8

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SA CHAMPIONSHIP (Curbar Gap, Derbyshire, 1,798 yards): 1, J Henderson (Oxford) 5:06.9; 2, R Homer (Loughborough) 5:29.8; 3, D Coulson (Sheffield Hallam) 5:30.4. Team: Oxford (J Henderson, D Symons, M Cubison) 17:28.4

GYMNASTICS

BERLIN: Rhythmic gymnastics world championship: Team: 1, Russia 118.678pts; 2, Belarus 118.264; 3, Ukraine 118.229; 4, Germany 117.397; 5, Bulgaria 78.290; 6, Italy 77.927; 7, Spain 77.517; 8, Japan 76.979. Individual: 1 E Vitrischenko (Ukr) 39.900pts; 2 N Lipkovskaja (Russ) 39.866, 3 Y Batyrschina (Russ) 39.832; 4 E Pavlina (Bela) 39.708. 5 Y Raskina (Bela) 39.623; 6 T Alexandrova (Bul) 39.540. 7 E Serrano (Fr) 39.499; 8 T Popova (Ukr) 39.482

ICE SKATING

DETROIT, Michigan: Figure competition: Pairs: Leading final positions after free skate: 1, M Eltsova and A Bushkov (Russ) 1.5 factored places. 2, K Ina and J Dungjen (US) 3.5; 3, E Shishkova and V Naumov (Russ) 4.0, 4, M Menzies and J M Bombardier (Can) 6.5; 5, M Khalturina and A Kroukov (Kaz) 8.0. Women: Free skate: 1, M Kwan (US) 1.0; 2, T Lipinski (US) 2.0; 3, E Sokolova (Russ) 3.0., 4, A Nikodinov (US) 4.0, 5, Y Lawrenchuk (Ukr) 5.0; 6, J Lautowa (Austria) 6.0; 7, Y Kanazawa (Japan) 7.0; 8, F Cagnard (Fr) 8.0, 9, A Derochie (Can) 9.0; 10, T S Bombardieri (It) 10.0. Leading final positions: 1, Kwan 1.5; 2, Lipinski 3.0; 3, Sokolova 6.0; 4, Nikodinov 6.0; 5, Lawrenchuk 6.5; 6, Lautowa 6.5; 7, Kanazawa 11.0; 8, Cagnard 13.0; 9, Derochie 13.5, 10, Bombardieri 13.5; Men's finals: 1, T Eldredge (US) 1.5. 2, E Plushenko (Russ) 3.0; 3, A Abt (Russ) 5.0; 4, S Davis (US) 6.5; 5, V Zagorodniuk (Ukr) 8.5, 6, E Pliuta (Ukr) 10.5, 7, T Honda (Japan) 10.5; (Honda was seventh due to Pliuta's better marks in the short program) 8, J Denommee (Can) 11.0. Leading free dance final positions: 1, E Punsalan and J Swallow (US) 2.0; 2, B Fusar-Poli, M Margaglio (It) 4.0.; 3, A Semenovich and V Fedorov (Russ) 7.0; 4, K Mrazova and M Simecek (Cz) 7.0.; 5, O Deniaud and M Jalfredo (Fr) 10.6.

MOTOR RALLYING

DYFNANT: Mintex National series: Seventh round: 1, M Dodd and S McAuley (Ford Escort Cosworth) 1hr 26min 38sec, 2, S Herron and P McCrea (Subaru Legacy) 1:27:23; 3, C Mellors and J Bennie (Ford Escort WRC) 1:27:47; 4, R Duckworth and M Broomfield (Subaru Impreza) 1:29:21; 5, S Dalgarno and M Forrest. (Ford Escort Cosworth) 1:30:03; 6, J Burn and S Quirk (MG Metro 6R4) 1:30:09. Final overall positions: 1, B Lyall 125pts; 2, M Grierson 98; 3, S Dalgarno 92.

REAL TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Australian Open: Semi-finals: R Fahey bt J Snow 6-4, 6-1, 6-2; F Filippelli bt M Gooding 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 6-1

ROWING

MARLOW SCULLS: Open: 1, I Watson (London) 18min 12sec (open winner); 2, G Pooley (Leander) 18.18; 3, J Warnock (London) 18.19 (senior 1 winner)

Other Division winners: Men: Senior 2: J Williamson (London) 18.35. Senior 3: D Atkins (Nottingham and Union) 18.50. Veteran: R Stephens (Henley) 18.54. Novice: A Bizzell (Leander) 19.10. Junior: A Hunter (Poplar) 20.13. Women: Open: N Dale (Tideway Scullers) 20.16. Senior 1: C Hill (Marlow) 19.58. Senior 2: H Raine (Marlow) 20.08. Senior 3: L Fink (Henley) 22.16. Novice: C Bishop (Marlow) 20.27. Junior: C Holmes (Warwick) 23.07.

HENLEY: Upper Thames small boat head: Quads Open: Leander 9min 40sec. Senior one: Oxford Brookes 10:09. Senior two: Leander 10:18. Women's Open: Upper Thames 11:12. Womens Senior three: Henley 11:45. Coxed fours: Open: Oxford Brookes/London 10:30. Senior one: Oxford Brookes 10:28. Senior two Oxford Brookes 10:56. Senior three: Queen's College, Oxford 11:32. Novice: Oxford Brookes 11:42. Women's Senior two: Southampton University 12:27. Woman's Senior three: King's School, Worcester 12:39. Coxless fours: Open: Oxford Brookes/London 9:49. Senior one: Oxford Brookes 10:17. Senior two: Oxford Brookes 10:39. Women's Open: Vesta 12:17. Double sculls Open: Molesey 11:04. Senior two: Bewl Bridge 11:24. Senior three: Upper Thames 11:03. Novice: Abingdon 11:35. Coxless pairs Open: Molesey 11.13. Senior one: Molesey 11:35. Senior two: Upper Thames 12:11.

SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: First leg (Southampton to Cape Town). Latest positions (at 12.00GMT yesterday). 1, EF Language (Swe) finished at 05.54.26 Tues; 2, Merit Cup (Monaco) 01.20.11 Wed; 3, Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 03.09.08; 4, Silk Cut (GB) 03 17.00 Thurs; 5, Chessie Racing (US) 19.14.00; 6, Toshiba (US) 05.23.14 Fri; 7, America's Challenge (US) 07.52.58; 8, Swedish Match (Swe) 14 14.39; 9, EF Education (Swe) 14.26 02; 10, BrunelSunergy (Holl) 171.7 miles from finish.

SCHOOLS SPORT

FOOTBALL: Inter-association: Rochdale 2 Chester 0; Salford 0 South Cheshire 0; Doncaster 5 Rotherham 2; Leeds 3 Hull 0; Mansfield 3 Grimsby 0; Derby 0 Sheffield 1. Manchester Cup: Stockport 6 Wigan 0. Northern Merit: Bradford 4 Bolton 4. Midlands divisional Trophy: Under-14: Walsall 1 Halesowen and Stourbridge 1; K Norton and Sth Birmingham 3 Wyre Forest 0; Cannock 4 Warley 2. Woodward Trophy: Pendle 0 Stockport 3.

RUGBY UNION: Colfe's 20 RGS Guildford 14; Christ's College Brecon 5 Llandovery College 34; Dollar Academy 24 Christ's Hospital 36; John Fisher 65 Whitgift 17; Plymouth 22 St Brendan's, Bristol 36; QEGS Barnet 7 St Albans 34; St Bees 36 Rydal 15; St John's, Leatherhead 45 Epsom 17.

SKIING

TIGNES, France: World Cup: Parallel slalom: Men: Final: J Strobl (Austria) bt K-A Aamodt (Nor). Third place: S Vogreiter (Austria) bt H Maier (Austria). Women: Final: L Piccard (Fr) bt Y Nowen (Swe). Third place: A Meissnitzer (Austria) bt M Ertl (Ger). Giant slalom: Women: 1, D Compagnoni (It) 2min 24.84sec (1.11.72/1:13.12); 2, M Ertl (Ger) 2:26.72 (1:13.08/1:13.64). 3, M Fortkord (Swe) 2:27.30 (1:12.90/1:14.40); 4, K Roten (Switz) 2:28.35 (1:12.86/1:14.49); 5, K Seizinger (Ger) 2:28.55 (1:12.58/1:15.97); 6, A Ottosson (Swe) 2.28.90 (1:14.38/1:14.52); 7, A Flemmen (Nor) 2:29.02; 8, H Gerg (Ger) 2:29.19; 9, equal, Y Nowen (Swe) and A Wachter (Austria) 2:29.33. Leading Giant slalom positions after one race: 1, Compagnoni 100pts; 2, Ertl 80; 3, Fortkord 60; 4 Roten 50; 5, Seizinger 45; 6, Ottosson 40; 7, Flemmen 36; 8, Gerg 32; 9, equal, Nowen and Wachter 29. Leading World Cup positions after two races: 1, Ertl 130pts, 2, Compagnoni 114; 3 L Piccard (Fr) 112; 4 Nowen 109; 5, A Meissnitzer (Austria) 76

SNOOKER

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE: Grand Prix: Quarter-final: J Higgins (Scot) bt J Read (Eng) 5-0. Semi-finals: Higgins bt M Stevens (Wales) 6-5; D Dale (Wales) bt J White (Eng) 6-2

SPEEDWAY

YOUNG SHIELD: Semi-final, second leg: Edinburgh 48 Long Eaton 42 (Long Eaton win 97-83 on agg)

SQUASH

MELBOURNE: Australian Open: Semi-finals: S Fitz-Gerald (Aus) bt L Irving (Aus) 9-3, 9-1, 9-1; M Martin (Aus) bt P Beams (NZ) 4-9, 9-1, 9-6, 9-3. Final: Fitz-Gerald bt Martin 5-9, 9-4, 9-4, 9-0.

TENNIS

STUTTGART: Eurocard Open: Quarter-finals: P Rafter (Aus) bt T Martin (US) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4; R Krajicek (Holl) bt M Larsson (Swe) 6-2, 7-5. Semi-finals: P Korda (Cz) bt Rafter 6-4, 7-6; Krajicek bt J Bjorkman (Swe) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. Final: Korda bt Krajicek 7-6, 6-2, 6-4.

MEXICO CITY: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: J A Viloca (Sp) bt J-A Marin (Sp) 6-4, 6-2; F Clavet (Sp) bt A Sa (Br) 6-3, 7-6; N Lapentti (Ec) bt E Alvarez (Sp) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; F Meligeni (Br) bt L Arnold (Arg) 2-6, 7-6, 6-0. Semi-finals: Clavet bt Lapentti 7-5, 7-6; Viloca bt Meligeni 6-3, 6-1.

LUXEMBOURG: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: B Paulus (Austria) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; A Coetzer (SA) bt M Oremans (Holl) 7-5, 6-7, 6-4. Semi-finals: Paulus bt A-G Sidot (Fr) 6-3, 6-4; Coetzer bt K Studenikova (Slovakia) 6-1, 3-6, 6-0. Final: Coetzer bt Paulus 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.

QUEBEC: Bell Challenge tournament: Second round: D van Roost (Bel) bt J Watanabe (US) 6-1, 6-2; C Rubin (US) bt M A Vento (Ven) 6-4, 6-1; B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) bt C Morariu (US) 1-6, 6-2, 6-1; L Raymond (US) bt M Grzybowska (Pol) 6-2, 7-6. Semi-finals: Schultz-McCarthy bt Rubin 6-2, 6-4; Van Roost bt Raymond 6-2, 3-6, 6-1.

MANCHESTER: Maureen Connolly Trophy: Great Britain under-21 5 United States under-21 1.

RUGBY UNION

Allied Dunbar Premiership

First division

Saturday

Harlequins 52 Sale 41

Harlequins: Tries: O'Leary 2, Bromley, Dawson, Jenkins, Leach, Tollett. Cons: Liley 7. Dropped goal: O'Leary. Sale: Tries: Beim, Ellis, Moore, Sanderson, Yates. Cons: Howarth 5. Pens: Howarth 2

Leicester 33 Bath 22

Leicester: Tries: Greenwood, Healey, Stransky. Cons: Stransky 3. Pens: Stransky 4. Bath: Try: Webster. Con: Callard. Pens: Callard 5

Yesterday

Bristol 22 Northampton 15

Bristol: Try: Tiueti. Con: Burke. Pens: Burke 3. Dropped goals: Burke 2. Northampton: Pens: Dawson 5

London Irish 22 Wasps 17

London Irish: Try: N Burrows. Con: Woods. Pens: Woods 3. Dropped goals: Humphreys, O'Shea. Wasps: Tries: Scrase, Wood. Cons: Logan, Rees. Pen: Rees

Newcastle 18 Richmond 12

Newcastle: Pens: Andrew 6. Richmond: Pens: Va'a 4

Saracens 42 Gloucester 24

Saracens: Tries: Botterman, Chuter, Lynagh, Sella, P Wallace. Cons: Lynagh 4. Pens: Lynagh 3. Gloucester: Tries: Tombs 2, Fanolua, Mapletoft. Cons: Mapletoft 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	4	4	0	0	108	63	8
Saracens	4	4	0	0	95	58	8
Richmond	4	2	0	2	90	61	4
Bath	4	2	0	2	106	88	4
Gloucester	4	2	0	2	104	95	4
Leicester	3	2	0	1	72	63	4
Harlequins	4	2	0	2	114	128	4
Wasps	3	1	0	2	70	62	2
Northampton	4	1	0	3	75	91	2
Sale	4	1	0	3	103	124	2
London Irish	4	1	0	3	61	104	2
Bristol	4	1	0	3	71	132	2

LEADING SCORERS: 60: M Lynagh (Saracens: 6 conversions, 16 penalty goals). 53: S Howarth (Sale: 10c, 11pg). 49: M Mapletoft (Gloucester: 2 tries, 9c, 6pg, 1 dropped goal). 47: J Stransky (Leicester: 1t, 6c, 10pg). 40: G Rees (Wasps: 1t, 4c, 9pg). 37: N Woods (London Irish: 1t, 4c, 8pg). 36: P Burke (Bristol: 6c, 6pg, 2dg)

Second division

Coventry 24 Wakefield 17

Coventry: Tries: Blackmore, Dawson, Irwin. Pens: Harris 3. Wakefield: Try: Summers. Pens: G Miller 4

Fylde 6 Blackheath 31

Fylde: Pens: Gough 2. Blackheath: Tries: Clarke, McCorduck, Penalty. Cons: Calder 2. Pens: Calder 4

London Scottish 15 Bedford 22

London Scottish: Tries: Jackson, Watson. Con: McAusland. Dropped goal: Cameron. Bedford: Try: Rayer. Con: Rayer. Pens: Rayer 5

Moseley 18 Orrell 9

Moseley: Tries: Hall, M Jones. Con: Liley. Dropped goals: M Jones 2. Orrell: Pens: Verbickas 2, Ryan

Waterloo 44 Exeter 13

Waterloo: Tries: Coast, Graham, Thomas, Wool. Cons: Griffiths 2, Thompson. Pens: Griffiths 6. Exeter: Try: Hodinson. Con: Fabian. Pens: Fabian 2

West Hartlepool 22 Rotherham 21

West Hartlepool: Tries: S John, Vile. Pens: Vile 3, Belgian. Rotherham: Tries: Wade, West. Con: Binns. Pens: Binns 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bedford	8	8	0	0	230	137	16
Waterloo	9	6	0	3	255	190	12
London Scot	9	6	0	3	228	171	12
Coventry	9	6	0	3	186	158	12
Orrell	8	5	0	3	200	135	10
W Hartlepool	8	5	0	3	175	173	10
Moseley	8	4	0	4	150	163	8
Blackheath	9	4	0	5	209	238	8
Rotherham	8	3	0	5	156	155	6
Exeter	9	2	0	7	148	223	4
Wakefield	9	1	0	8	166	224	2
Fylde	8	1	0	7	108	244	2

LEADING SCORERS: 113: M Rayer (Bedford: 1 try, 12 conversions, 28 penalty goals) 111: L Griffiths (Waterloo: 18c, 25pg) 91: S Vile (West Hartlepool: 1t, 7c, 22pg, 2 dropped goals) 88: J Fabian (Exeter: 2 tries, 6c, 22pg) 86: S Binns (Rotherham: 1t, 6c, 22pg, 1dg); 74: J Harris (Coventry: 1t, 23pg, 1dg) 72: D Lee (London Scottish: 2t, 7c, 14pg, 2dg). Tries: 10: J Clarke (Blackheath). 9: C Sharman (London Scottish). 6: M Coast (Waterloo), 6: D O'Mahony (Moseley), N Ryan (Orrell), W Morris (Waterloo)

Jewson National League

First division

Liverpool St H 26 Harrogate 11

Liverpool St Helens: Tries: Gaskell, Hunter, Sephton. Con: Brett. Pens: Salisbury 3. Harrogate: Try: Reed. Pens: Racy 2

Lydney 9 Wharfedale 10

Lydney: Pens: Lewis 3. Wharfedale: Try: Stephens. Con: Mounsey. Pen: Mounsey

Newbury 30 Rosslyn Park 22

Newbury: Tries: Dawling, T Osman, R Osman. Cons: Grecian 3. Pens: Grecian 3. Rosslyn Park: Tries: Dickinson, Maddock, T Richie. Cons: Maddock 2. Pen: Maddock

Otley 30 Leeds 21

Otley: Tries: Thornton 2, Filipo, Smith. Cons: Rutledge 2. Pens: Rutledge 2. Leeds: Tries: Appleson, Penalty. Con: Tupuiotu. Pens: Tupuiotu 3. Att: 1,000

Reading 20 Nottingham 16

Reading: Tries: Bachelet, Costeloe. Cons: Pitt 2. Pens: Pitt 2. Nottingham: Tries: Delaney, Reynolds. Pens: C Atkinson 2.

Rugby 69 Morley 3

Rugby: Tries: Bishop 2, Baker, Earl, M Ellis, Morgan, Quantrill, Rees, S Smith, Thompson, Underhill. Cons: Quantrill 5, Czerpak 2. Morley: Pen: Grayshon.

Worcester 13 London Welsh 28

Worcester: Try: Jenner. Con: Smith. Pens: Smith 2. London Welsh: Tries: Currier 2, Giraud. Cons: Raymond 2. Pens: Raymond 2. Dropped goal: Raymond

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
London Welsh	7	6	1	0	224	112	13
Rugby	7	6	0	1	213	104	12
Worcester	8	6	0	2	213	107	12
Reading	8	6	0	2	236	142	12
Leeds	7	5	1	1	171	131	11
Otley	8	5	0	3	151	166	10
Rosslyn Park	7	3	1	3	125	132	7
Liverpool St H	7	3	1	3	109	140	7
Newbury	7	3	0	4	158	147	6
Wharfedale	8	3	0	5	182	221	6
Nottingham	7	2	0	5	121	169	4
Harrogate	7	1	0	6	150	167	2
Lydney	8	1	0	7	85	142	2
Morley	8	0	0	8	86	324	0

LEADING SCORERS: 99: S Tupolotu (Leeds: 4 tries, 12 conversions, 18 penalty goals) 86: A Mounsey (Wharfedale: 3t, 13c, 15pg) 79: C Raymond (London Welsh: 2t, 18c, 10pg, 1 dropped goal). 77: A Maddock (Rosslyn Park: 2t, 5c, 19pg). 71: C Atkinson (Nottingham: 4c, 21pg) 69: J Quantrill (Rugby: 3t, 15c, 8pg) 67: P Rutledge (Otley: 2t, 9c, 13pg) 60: J Dance (Reading: 12c, 12pg) Tries: 5: A Bachelet (Reading), D Bishop (Rugby), A Currier (London Welsh).

Second division north

Aspatria	39	Preston G	23
Birmingham/Sol	52	Winnington Park	8
Kendal	14	Stourbridge	15
Manchester	24	Sedgley Park	24
Sandal	13	Nuneaton	26
Sheffield	10	Lichfield	11
Walsall	49	Hinckley	24

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	7	6	0	1	262	119	12
Sedgley Park	7	5	1	1	194	144	11
Manchester	7	4	2	1	246	187	10
Sandal	7	4	1	2	126	132	9
Nuneaton	6	4	0	2	141	123	8
Walsall	7	4	0	3	167	195	8
Kendal	7	3	1	3	147	105	7
Sheffield	7	3	0	4	142	147	6
Stourbridge	6	2	0	4	132	133	4
Hinckley	6	2	0	4	135	151	4
Lichfield	6	2	0	4	96	119	4
Aspatria	6	2	0	4	128	241	4
Preston G	7	1	1	5	107	145	3
Winnington Pk	6	1	0	5	108	190	2

Second division south

Barking	50	Bridgwater	30
Camberley	28	Weston-s-Mare	6
Clifton	18	North Walsham	12
Havant	18	Redruth	17
Met Police	26	Henley	31
Plymouth	38	Esher	20
Tabard	24	Cheltenham	18

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Camberley	6	6	0	0	197	88	12
Henley	6	5	0	1	156	104	10
Tabard	7	5	0	2	150	106	10
Barking	6	4	0	2	173	126	8
Esher	7	4	0	3	154	157	8
Clifton	7	4	0	3	109	138	8
Cheltenham	6	3	0	3	131	128	6
N Walsham	6	3	0	3	85	94	6
Bridgwater	7	3	0	4	152	227	6
Redruth	6	2	0	4	142	128	4
Havant	6	2	0	4	72	101	4
Weston-s-M	7	2	0	5	87	144	4
Plymouth	7	1	0	6	135	156	2
Met Police	6	1	0	5	97	143	2

SOUTH WEST: First division: Bracknell 16 Berry Hill 3, Gloucester OB 23 Stroud 10; Maidenhead 31 St Ives 3, Matson 19 Barnstaple 14 Penzance-Newlyn 20 Launceston 35, Torquay 21 High Wycombe 17. LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Norwich 27 Thanet Wanderers 12, Ruislip 22 Cheshunt 10; Southend 23 Thurrock 0; Sutton and Epsom 22 Guildford and Godalming 26, Staines 73 Askeans 7, Sudbury 34 Charlton Park 15; Wimbledon 58 Old Colfeians 34. MIDLANDS: First division: Banbury 29 Wolverhampton 20; Burton 15 Broadstreet 21, Camp Hill 21 Belgrave 19; Derby 28 Barkers Butts 21; Hereford 13 Whitchurch 29, Leighton Buzzard 27 Westleigh 42; Mansfield 22 Syston 11; Scunthorpe 26 Stoke-on-Trent 3. NORTH: First division: Bridlington 21 West Park Bramhope 6, Broughton Park 14 Middlesbrough 13; Macclesfield 16 Wigton 3 New Brighton 26 Hull Ionians 7; Stockton 16 Tynedale 22, Widnes 16 Doncaster 15.

Welsh League

Premier division

Cardiff 30 Ebbw Vale 24

Cardiff: Tries: L Davies, Hill, Gareth Jones. Cons: Jarvis 3. Pens: Jarvis 3. Ebbw Vale: Tries: Hayward, G Williams. Con: Hayward. Pens: Hayward 4

Llanelli 25 Swansea 22

Llanelli: Try: I Jones. Con: A Warlow. Pens: A Warlow 6. Swansea: Tries: Back, A Harris. Pens: Davis 2, A Thomas 2.

Neath 52 Bridgend 10

Neath: Tries: Bernard 3, Boobyer, M Evans, Martin. Cons: Price 5. Pens: Price 4. Bridgend: Try: Greenaway. Con: M Lewis. Pen: Cull

Newport 11 Pontypridd 26

Newport: Try: Lawson. Pens: Connor, Lawson. Pontypridd: Tries: Paul John 3, Williams. Cons: Jenkins 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Pontypridd	4	3	0	1	125	65	16	3	12
Swansea	4	3	0	1	134	68	19	3	12
Cardiff	4	3	1	0	122	73	13	1	11
Llanelli	4	2	0	2	121	94	14	2	8
Bridgend	4	2	1	1	86	119	9	0	7
Neath	4	1	0	3	105	135	13	1	4
Ebbw Vale	4	1	0	3	71	152	7	0	3
Newport	4	0	0	4	63	115	6	0	0

First division

Aberavon 15 SW Police 5

Aberavon: Tries: Jasper, Leity. Con: Bell. Pen: Stork. South Wales Police: Try: Sparrow

Abertillery 19 Rumney 24

Abertillery: Tries: Penny, A Price, Rees. Cons: A Price 2. Rumney: Tries: Greedy, Hopkins, Peard. Cons: Mason 3. Pen: Mason.

Dunvant 26 Llandovery 23

Dunvant: Tries: Daniel, W Lloyd. Cons: M Thomas 2. Pens: M Thomas 3. Dropped goal: Daniel. Llandovery: Tries: P Jones 2, D Morgan. Con: Simpson. Pens: Simpson 2.

Maesteg 22 Bonymaen 20

Maesteg: Tries: Malone 2, Bow. Cons: Morris, Pearce. Pen: Pearce. Bonymaen: Tries: Beynon, May. Cons: S Davies 2. Pen: S Davies. Dropped goal: G Jones.

Merthyr 32 Cross Keys 11

Merthyr: Tries: Ford 2, Morris 2, D Evans, Loring. Con: Titley. Cross Keys: Try: Ellis. Pens: Varnall 2

Newbridge 28 Pontypool 13

Newbridge: Tries: Cooper, Hanks, Kawulok. Cons: J Williams 2. Pens: J Williams 3. Pontypool: Try: Law. Con: Curtis. Pens: Curtis 2

Treorchy 54 Blackwood 13

Treorchy: Tries: P Jones 3, Eggar, Fowler, B Jones, Roberts, West. Cons: D Lloyd 7. Blackwood: Tries: Grimstead, J Sims. Pen: Richards.

Cardiff Inst 19 Caerphilly 24

Cardiff Institute: Tries: Cooke, Cooper, Wagstaff. Cons: Roberts 2. Caerphilly: Tries: R Bidgood, Jenkins, P Phillips. Cons: P Phillips 3. Pen: P Phillips

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Caerphilly	9	8	0	1	357	117	48	9	33
Aberavon	10	8	1	1	291	163	42	5	30
Treorchy	10	8	0	2	268	163	37	5	29
SWPolice	10	6	0	4	264	154	39	6	24
Merthyr	9	5	1	3	193	176	29	3	19
Llandovery	9	5	0	4	184	154	22	3	18
Cross Keys	9	5	1	3	162	156	13	0	16
Rumney	9	5	0	4	158	243	19	0	15
Cardiff Inst	10	3	0	7	239	257	31	6	15
Blackwood	10	4	0	6	188	260	25	1	13
Dunvant	9	4	0	5	172	271	18	0	12
Abertillery	10	3	1	6	160	211	19	1	11
Maesteg	9	3	0	6	155	206	14	1	10
Newbridge	9	3	0	6	125	188	11	0	9
Bonymaen	9	2	0	7	114	165	13	0	6
Pontypool	9	1	0	8	143	289	18	1	4

SECOND DIVISION: Abercynon 15 Narberth 11, Kenfig Hill 14 Pyle 15; St Peter'S 7 Tondu 36, Ystradgynlais 9 Whitland 17, Llanharan 32 Mountain Ash 8; Tenby Utd 42 Tredegar 21.

SRU Inter-district championship

Edinburgh 25 Caledonia 9

Edinburgh: Tries: Burns, Dall. Pens: Hodge 5. Caledonia: Pens: Shepherd 3. (at Inverleith)

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Scottish Borders 9 Glasgow 17

SRU League Trophy

Group A

Edinburgh Ac	27	Hawick	21
Heriots FP	6	Glasgow Hawks	53
Kirkcaldy	19	Gala	24
Melrose	28	Currie	17
Musselburgh	23	Preston Lodge	16

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Edinburgh	9	7	0	2	310	229	0	7	35
Heriots FP	9	7	0	2	263	200	0	5	33
Gala	9	7	1	1	230	171	0	1	31
Melrose	9	5	1	3	281	208	0	5	27
Glasgow H	9	5	1	3	300	170	0	4	26
Kirkcaldy	9	4	0	5	195	239	0	6	22
Currie	9	3	0	6	170	197	0	4	16
Hawick	9	2	0	7	163	194	0	5	13
Musselb'gh	9	2	0	7	168	285	0	3	11
Preston L	9	1	1	7	157	344	0	3	9

Group B

Biggar	23	West of Scotland	24
Boroughmuir	19	Kelso	39
Dundee HSFP	14	Kilmarnock	29
Jed-Forest	77	Peebles	3
Watsonians	20	Stirling County	31

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Stirling Co	9	8	0	1	244	171	0	4	36
W of Scot	9	7	0	2	313	161	0	7	35
Kilmarnock	9	7	0	2	231	139	0	4	32
B'muir	9	3	1	5	245	240	0	7	21
Kelso	9	4	0	5	209	202	0	4	20
Jed-Forest	9	4	0	5	208	159	0	3	19
Dundee	9	4	0	5	182	247	0	3	19
Watsonians	9	3	0	6	203	226	0	3	15
Biggar	9	3	1	5	161	236	0	1	15
Peebles	9	1	0	8	103	318	0	2	6

Group C

Aberdeen GSFP	15	Stewarts Mel FP	8
Gordonians	46	Glenrothes	29

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Gordonians	4	4	0	0	98	62	0	1	17
Aberdeen	4	3	0	1	80	56	0	1	13
Grngmth	4	1	0	3	76	69	0	3	7
Stew Mel	4	1	0	3	58	87	0	2	6
Glenrothes	4	1	0	3	65	103	0	1	5

Group D

Hillhead/J	22	Glasgow S	46
Selkirk	19	Ayr	29

Club matches

Grangemouth 28 Stewartry 10

Currie Cup

Final

W Province 14 Free State 12

Western Province: Try: Swart. Pens: Koen 3. Free State: Pens: De Beer 4 (at Cape Town)

New Zealand National Provincial Championship

Final

Canterbury 44 Counties 13

Canterbury: Tries: So'oialo 2, Gibson, Mayerhofler, Marshall, Gardiner. Cons: Mehrtens 4. Pens: Mehrtens 2. Counties-Manukau: Try: Feeney. Con: Feeney. Pens: Feeney 2

Latin Cup

France 32 Argentina 27

France: Tries: Leflamand, Dal Maso, Benazzi, Califano. Cons: Lamaison, Thierry 2. Pens: Lacroix 2. Argentina: Tries: Sporleder, Turnes, Martin. Cons: Arbizu 3. Pen: Arbizu. Dropped goal: Arbizu.

Italy 56 Romania 32

Italy: Tries: Francescato 2, De Carli, Ravazzolo, Sgorlon, Vaccari. Cons: Dominguez 5. Pens: Dominguez 5. Romania: Tries: Girbu, Radoi 2, Solomie. Cons: Tofan 3. Pens: Tofan 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	3	0	0	101	49	9
Argentina	3	1	1	1	90	62	6
Italy	3	1	1	1	92	80	6
Romania	3	0	0	3	53	133	3

Tour matches

Tucuman	15	Australia XV	76
Redruth Pres	9	Tonga XV	64

Christophe Lamaison, left, of France, tries to escape from Fabian Turnes, of Argentina, in the Latin Cup. France won 32-27 to remain unbeaten in the tournament

GOLF

LA MORALEJA: Old Pro-Am: Leading final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 266: P McGinley 66, 67, 64, 69. 270: I Pyman 68, 69, 69, 64. 273: G Turner (NZ) 69, 68, 67, 69. 274: R Russell 68, 69, 68, 71. 275: H Clark 70, 67, 72, 66. J Rivero (Sp) 65, 73, 68, 69; J Lomas 67, 69, 69, 70. 276: M Mackenzie 70, 69, 68, 69. 277: P Baker 69, 72, 68, 68; M-A Jiménez (Sp) 67, 68, 72, 70; S Ames (Trin) 71, 67, 69, 70. 278: P Eales 71, 69, 70, 68. A Cabrera (Arg) 70, 70, 69, 69; G Evans 70, 67, 71, 70; J Sandelin (Swe) 74, 67, 70, 67. J Spence 66, 72, 70, 70; J-C Pinero (Sp) 67, 70, 68, 73. 279: P Linhart (Sp) 67, 68, 74, 70; A Forsbrand (Swe) 71, 69, 69, 70; W Riley (Aus) 71, 66, 71, 71. P Harrington 72, 66, 69, 72; P Sjoland (Swe) 69, 69, 69, 72. F Roca (Sp) 65, 70, 71, 73; A Coltart 74, 69, 70, 66. R Boxall 64, 72, 70, 73. 280: P Curry 71, 69, 69, 71. G Clark 67, 73, 69, 71; M Mouland 65, 73, 74, 68. S Luna (Sp) 70, 69, 68, 73. 281: S Ballesteros (Sp) 72, 70, 68, 71. J Sota (Sp) 69, 70, 71, 71; P Affleck 69, 72, 72, 68, I Garrido (Sp) 71, 67, 70, 73. S Struver (Ger) 66, 73, 68, 74, D Howell 71, 71, 65, 74. 282: P Mitchell 72, 68, 70, 72, J Payne 72, 68, 70, 72. D Robertson 69, 70, 72, 71; M Tunnicliff 73, 67, 72, 70, A Binaghi (It) 67, 74, 72, 69; S Cage 73, 68, 74, 70; P Lawrie 71, 66, 69, 76

MONTADO, Portugal: European Challenge Tour Estoril Grand Final: Leading final scores (GB and Ire unless stated) 198: N Joakimides (Fr) 69, 67, 62. 199: M Lundberg (Swe) 64, 66, 69. 200: P Nyman (Swe) 69, 67, 64; M Pendaries (Fr) 68, 64, 68. 202: S Leaney (Aus) 65, 70, 67, A Carlson 67, 68, 67, T Levet (Fr) 66, 66, 70. 203: S Tinning (Den) 69, 69, 65, B Dredge 70, 65, 68. 204: K Brink (Swe) 68, 70, 66. J Berendt (Arg) 71, 67, 66, M Goggin (Aus) 70, 66, 68. H Nystrom (Swe) 67, 68, 69. 205: O Edmond (Fr) 66, 71, 68. F Cea (Sp) 67, 66, 72. 206: J-M Arruti (Sp) 69, 71, 66. M Reale (It) 69, 71, 66; R Jacquelin (Fr) 70, 68, 68. 207: F Cupillard (Fr) 68, 71, 68; J Bickerton 69, 68, 70, W Bennett 68, 68, 71; F Henge (Swe) 67, 68, 72.

□ Leading 15 players who earn cards to the European Tour for 1998: 1, Reale £51,679, 2, Brink £36,112, 3, G Chalmers (Aus) £35,267, 4, Jacquelin £34,537, 5, A Kankkonen (Fin) £32,128; 6, Joakimides £31,497, 7, D Lynn £31,341; 8, Tinning £29,552; 9, K Storegaard (Den) £29,426; 10, C Hainline (US) £29,368; 11, Leaney £28,613; 12, H Thul (Ger) £27,417; 13, N Vanhootegem (Bel) £26,936; 14, S Kjeldsen (Den) £26,581. 15, Dredge £26,415

LAS VEGAS, Nevada: Las Vegas invitational tournament: Leading fourth-round scores (US unless stated): 272: D Waldorf 65, 63, 69, 75. 274: M Reid 67, 67, 70, 70; B Glasson 63, 65, 75, 71, B Mayfair 65, 63, 73, 73. 275: D Edwards 68, 66, 69, 72; M Calcavecchia 66, 66, 72, 71; K Sutherland 69, 73, 70, 73. 276: J D Blake 68, 69, 68, 71. 278: S Jones 66, 68, 72, 72; B Fabel 64, 66, 77, 71; K Gibson 64, 65, 78, 73; T Tryba 66, 65, 73, 74. 279: L Janzen 66, 72, 71, 70; F Couples 66, 67, 69, 77. Other scores: 280: T Woods 68, 64, 77, 71; G Hjertstedt (Swe) 70, 70, 70, 70. 283: G Waite (NZ) 67, 68, 73, 75. 285: D Frost (SA) 70, 69, 71, 75. 287: B Hughes (Aus) 67, 69, 75, 76

DAYTONA BEACH: LPGA final qualifying school: Fully exempt card winners: 278: Se Ri Pak (Kor) 68, 76, 67, 67, C Kerr 68, 74, 67, 69. 281: J Hinton 68, 72, 70, 71. 282: M Hjorth (Swe) 70, 68, 74, 70. 284: H Dobson 76, 72, 66, 70. K Kuehne 69, 72, 71, 72: A Ridgeway 69, 73, 69, 73. 285: S Mehra (India) 72, 70, 71, 72; E Dahllof (Swe) 70, 68, 75, 72. 287: M Dobek 69, 74, 75, 69; A Dolucci 70, 73, 72, 72; J Feldott 71, 74, 69, 73; L Spalding 71, 72, 70, 74. 288: J Morley (Eng) 73, 74, 73, 68; N Fink (Austria) 72, 71, 74, 71; K Coats 70, 73, 73, 72. 289: M McNamara 70, 76, 70, 73; P Rizzo 72, 71, 73, 73. 291: J Kangas 72, 75, 75, 69; P Schrammer 70, 73, 76, 72. 292: (after play-off) J Zedlitz 72, 76, 74, 70; C Dibnah (Aus) 71, 75, 75, 71; D Barnard (Eng) 73, 71, 76, 72.

DEAUVILLE, France: Open tournament: Leading final scores (GB and Ire unless stated). 213: L Lambert (Aus) 71, 73, 69. 215: A Nicholas 73, 69, 73. 216: S Waugh (Aus) 67, 77, 72; V Michaud (Fr) 70, 72, 74. 217: S Mendiburu (Fr) 70, 75, 72; D Dowling 75, 72, 70; G Stewart 72, 68, 77. 218: M-L de Lorenzi (Fr) 73, 75, 70; S Prosser 68, 78, 72; P Meunier Lebouc (Fr) 72, 72, 74. L Navarro (Sp) 71, 71, 76. 220: A Arruti (Sp) 75, 69, 76. 221: N Moult 75, 75, 71; C Schmitt (Fr) 74, 73, 74. 222: H Wadsworth 75, 75, 72; B Pestana (SA) 78, 72, 72; J Soulsby 76, 73, 73. 223: J Leary (Aus) 76, 73, 74; M Loidahl (Swe) 71, 76, 76; S Moon (US) 74, 72, 77. 224: P Stamer (Swe) 79, 71, 74; K Taylor 75, 74, 75; M Arruti (Sp) 73, 75, 76; I Tinning (Den) 77, 77, 70. 225: L Maritz (SA) 77, 73, 75; P Gonzalez (Col) 76, 77, 72; M-T Pistolet-Boselli (Fr) 72, 79, 74. 226: K Pearce (Aus) 77, 74, 75; A Berg (Swe) 77, 77, 72

YAMAZOE, Japan: Kibun Classic: Leading final scores (Japan unless stated) 287: A Sorenstam (Swe) 72, 70, 73, 72. 288: N Noro 69, 71, 75, 73; Ku Ok-Hee (S Kor) 72, 68, 71, 77.

EL DORADO HILLS, California: Raley's Gold Rush Classic: Leading second-round scores (US unless stated): 136: B Eastwood 67, 69. 138: R Acton 73, 65, J Dent 69, 69; B Summerhays 69, 69, G Player (SA) 69, 69. 139: J Kiefer 74, 65. Other scores: 144: V Fernandez (Sp) 74, 70. 145: R Floyd 76, 69; R Charles (NZ) 74, 71. 149: D Graham (Aus) 78, 71

ATHLETICS

ROAD RUNNING: Birmingham: Men's National six stage championships: 1, Brentford Harriers 1hr 40min 36sec; 2, London Irish 1:41:47; 3, Bingley Harriers 1:41:53. Seoul, Chunchon international marathon: 1, M Tanui (Ken) 2hr 9min 1sec, 2, K Yong (Kor) 2:09.21, 3, S Kiwa (Ken) 2:10.17. Frankfurt Marathon: Men: 1, M Fiz (Ger) 2hr 10min 59sec; 2, W Musyoki (Ken) 2:12.21, 3, H Koncha (Ken) 2.12.24. British: 6, D Taylor 2:13.27. Women: 1, K Doerre-Heinig (Ger) 2:26.48, 2, L Subano (Ken) 2:30.51; 3, E Yamazaki (Japan) 2:34.29. Sutton Park, Birmingham: English Women's four stage relay championships: 1, Bedford 58min 22sec; 2, Shaftesbury Barnet 59:01, 3, Charnwood 59:22. 4, Parkside 59:33; 5, Salford Harriers 59:54; 6, Birchfield Harriers 60:33; 7, Havant 60:47; 8, Sale Harriers 61:04; 9, Hallamshire 61:33. 10, Liverpool Harriers 62:39. Fastest lap: P Radcliffe (Bedford) 13:55. Larne: Larne relays: Men: 6 x 2 miles: 1, Annadale Striders 55:24; 2, North Belfast 56:20; 3, Willowfield 58:01. Fastest lap: D Donnelly (Annadale) 8:50. Veterans: 4 x 2 miles: 1, North Belfast 41:12; 2, Albertville 43:13; 3, Larne 44:46. Fastest lap: M Shields (North Belfast) 9:42. Women: 2 miles: P Quinn, Ballymena and Antrim 10:40; 2, S Gurney (Albertville) 10:56; 3, H Waugh (Albertville) 11:07. Men U-18: 4 x 2 miles. 1, North Belfast 42:30, 2, Sperrin 44:07; 3, Albertville 51:46. Fastest lap: J Frazer (North Belfast) 10:03. Morden Park: Ron Hill Surrey classic series: 10km: 1, R Ward (Ron Hill Sports) 32:19 (UK 15-year-old record); 2, R James (Dorking & Mole Valley) 33:48; 3, C Bosser (New York) 34:32. Veteran: S Patten (Muswell Hill) 36:00. Over 50: P Giles (Unattached) 37:13. Over 60: N Oliver (1066 Tri Club) 41:16. Women: 1, A Solly (North London) 38:27; 2, R Wilson (Belgrave) 40:02, 3, A Molyneaux (Epsom and Ewell) 40:42. Battersea Park: Metropolitan Police 10km championships: 1, I Campbell (Barking) 32:23; 2, G Holbrook (Southwark) 33:14; 3, P Allen (Borehamwood) 34:02. Teams: 1, Southwark 13pts; 2, Marylebone 36; 3, Battersea 43. Veteran: D Betts (Barnes) 38:14. Women: A Megram (West End Central) 40:26.

CROSS COUNTRY: Kielder run: Men: 1, D Bannister (Shaftesbury) 28min 56sec; 2, T Murray (Spango Valley AC) 29:07; 3, S Bell (Chester-le-Street) 29:24. Women: 1, L Harding (Houghton and Peterlee) 34:17; 2, J Hargreaves (Border Harriers) 34:40; 3, K Shaw (Shildon) 35:02. Dundee: Scottish relay championships: Men: 4 x 4,000m: 1, Mizuno RC 49min 57sec; 2, Shettleston H 50:47, 3, Kilbarchan AC 51:37, 4, Dundee Hawkhill H 51:49, 5, Falkirk Vic H 52:03; 6, City of Edinburgh 52:26. Women: 3 x 4,000m: 1, City of Glasgow 44:53; 2, Edinburgh WM 46:38; 3, Babcock Pitreavie 47:39; 4, Glasgow University 48:37; 5, Shettleston H 48:46; 6, Fife 49:06. Oxford: Representative match: Men: 5.5 miles: 1, R Barton (Royal Air Force) 29:36; 2, E Fountain (Oxford University) 29:40; 3, T Doughty (Royal Air Force) 29:47; 4, C Marriott (Oxford University) 29:59. Teams: 1, Oxford University 33pts, 2, Royal Air Force 53. Women: 2.5miles: 1, K Wilder (Oxford University) 18:29; 2, D Ottley (Royal Air Force) 18:33; 3, R Curne (Oxford University) 18:14. Teams: 1, Oxford University 15pts, 2, Royal Air Force 27. High Wycombe: Chiltern League: First division: 1, W Levitt (Vauxhall) 36:57; 2, A Eynon (Windsor) 37:18; 3, R McHarg (Windsor) 37:37. Teams: 1, Harrow 1,495pts; 2, Oxford City 1,394, 3, Milton Keynes 1,326. Women: 1, S White (Chiltern) 26:52; 2, A Carswell (Bracknell) 27:29; 3, V Watts (Vauxhall) 28:01. Teams: 1, Chiltern 105pts, 2, Windsor, Slough and Eton 97, 3, Vauxhall 94. Croydon: East Surrey League: 5 miles: 1, P Haywood (Bexhill Racers) 26:12, 2, R James (Dorking and Mole Valley) 28:50; 3, J Fitzpatrick (Croydon) 29:14. Teams: 1, Bexhill Racers 22pts, 2, Epsom and Ewell 51; 3, Croydon 55. Veteran: B Ewen (Striders of Croydon) 31:00. Swansea: TSB Gwent League: Men 10.6km: 1, C Stephenson (Cardiff) 31:57; 2, A Jones (Cardiff) 33:00; 3, M Rees (Swansea) 33:20. Teams: 1, Cardiff 23pts; 2, Swansea 67; 3, Les Croupiers 80. Women: 5.3km: 1, F Gill (Neath) 22:24; 2, C Dugdale (Cardiff) 22:40; 3, E Evans (Bridgend) 22:47. Teams: 1, Bridgend 81pts, 2, Les Croupiers 100; 3, Cardiff 113. Leek: North Staffordshire Men's League: 1, D Neil (Staffs Moorlands) 38:22; 2, D Hollins (Potteries Marathon) 39:12; 3, M Plano (Staffordshire University) 39:36. Teams: First division: 1, Staffordshire University 94pts; 2, Potteries Marathon 102; 3, Trentham Running Club 173. Second division: 1, Cannock and Stafford 233pts, 2, Chase Harriers 828, 3, Michelin 882. Stoke-on-Trent Ladies League: 1, K Burge (Stafford Harriers) 28:14, 2, A Whitelaw (Wrexham) 28:26; 3, M Campbell (Newcastle) 28:26. Teams: 1, Cannock and Stafford 28pts, 2, Cheadle Running Club 29; 3, Stafford Harriers 36.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Saturday: Barford Tigers 1 Cannock 4; Beeston 1 Doncaster 1; Canterbury 5 Old Loughtonians 2; East Grinstead 2 Teddington 1; Guildford 1 Reading 2; Hounslow 1 Southgate 3. Yesterday: Cannock 4 Beeston 0; Doncaster 1 Barford Tigers 2; Old Loughtonians 3 Guildford 1; Reading 3 Canterbury 4; Southgate 1 East Grinstead 3; Teddington 4 Hounslow 2. First division: Bromley 3 St Albans 2; Gloucester City 1 Firebrands 1; Hampstead 2 Chelmsford 3; Harleston Magpies 4 Oxford Hawks 0; Havant 4 Brooklands 0; Isca 1 Hull 3; Lewes 1 Indian Gymkhana 5; Loughborough St 2 Blueharts 3; Sheffield 0 Bournville 3; Stourport 7 Oxford Univ 3; Warrington 3 Surbiton 7.

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich 0 Olton and West Warwicks 5; Coventry and North Warwicks 2 Nottingham 4; Hampton in Arden 3 Harborne 5; Khalsa 2 Edgbaston 1; North Stafford 3 Blossomfield 0; Northampton Saints 2 North Notts 2.

EUROSPORT AND LEISURE SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Chichester 2 Fareham 2; Eastcote 3 Herne Bay 1; High Wycombe 2 Richmond 4; Old Whitgiftians 1 Anchorians 3; Purley 1 Maidenhead 2; Ramgarhia 0 City Of Portsmouth 4; Trojans 0 Bournemouth 4; Tunbridge Wells 1 Winchester 3; Wimbledon 4 Beckenham 2; Woking 1 Gore Court 1. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Ashford 4 Garrards Cross 2; Farnham Common 3 Hendon 2; Lions 3 Hayes 1; Milton Keynes 3 Phoenix 3; Newbury 1 Bracknell 1; P H C Chiswick 1 West Hampstead 3; Richings Park 2 Wokingham 7; Staines 2 Old Kingstonians 2; Sunbury 5 City Of Oxford 4. Kent/Sussex: Ashford 2 Worthing 0; B H C 4 Tulse Hill 1; Bexley Invicta 4 Burnt Ash 2; Blackheath 6 Brighton 1; Folkestone 1 Lloyds Bank 2; Horsham 1 Old Williamsonians 1; Marden Russets 3 Sevenoaks 4; Middleton Bognor 3 [illegible] Mid Sussex 4 Old Holcombeians 3. Newhaven 0. Hampshire: Andover 7 Orsholt 2; Basingstoke 1 Old Georgians 0; Blandford 5 Spencer 3; Cheam 1 Old Mid-Whitgiftians 2; London Univ 1 Dulwich 0; Old Cranleighans 6 Barnes 6; Oxted 3 Camberley 1; Petersfield 4 Epsom 1.

ADNAMS HOCKEY EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Clacton 1 Crostyx 2; Colchester 2 Ipswich 0; Luton Town 1 Cambridge City 5; Peterborough Tn 3 Bishops Stortford 1; Sudbury 1 Cambridge Univ 4. Premier division B: Ipswich and E Suffolk 1 Romford 0; Norwich City 2 Bedford 2; Redbridge and Ilford 2 O Southendian 3; St Ives 0 Bury St Edmunds 4; West Herts 5 Dereham 2.

NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding 2 Durham Univ 1; Chester 1 Formby 3; Harrogate 2 Wigan 1; Neston 3 Southport 2; Norton 6 Swalwell 1; Timperley 1 Sheffield Bankers 1.

WEST OF ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Univ 1 Taunton Vale 6; Cheltenham 3 Exeter Univ 0; Clevedon 1 Bath Bucs 1; Swansea 0 Weston-Super-Mare 0; Whitchurch 2 Robinsons 5.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Gordonians 2 Clydesdale 1; Grange 0 Western Grasshopper 1; Kelburne 3 Watsonians 0; MIM 7 Inverleith 2; Stepps 0 Mimtech Wanderers 8. Second division: Aberdeen GSFP 2 Hazlehead 2; Edinburgh University 10 Clydebank 0; Grove 0 Granemouth 6; Harris 3 Dunfermline Carnegie 1; Menzieshill 10 Dundee University 0; Edinburgh University 10 Dunfermline Carnegie 1

WOMEN'S CLUB MATCH: Doncaster 1 Aldridge 1.

ABINGDON: Women's regional tournaments: Under-18: South 0 Midlands 5; North 1 West 1; East 4 South 1; Final positions: 1, Midlands 9pts; 2, East 9; 3, North 4. Under-16: West 1 North 5; East 3 Midlands 2; South 0 West 1; Final positions: 1, South 7; 2, North 6; 3, East 5.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Edinburgh Ladies 4 Western A 1; Hillhead 0 Bonagrass Grove 3; Hyndland Grasshopper 0 Melrose 1; Menzieshill 4 Aberdeen Bon Accord 0; Royal High Gymnasts 9 Western Klick Photopoint 5; Aberdeen Bon Accord 0 Hillhead 1; Bonagrass Grove 2 Royal High Gymnasts 0; Western Klick Photopoint 2 Edinburgh Ladies 2. Second division: Kelburne 3 Heriot Watt University 4; Selkirk 2 Grange 4; Watsonians 2 Edinburgh University 1; Grange 2 Heriot Watt University 0; Kelburne 1 Edinburgh University 0.

[illegible]

DAILY TELEGRAPH JUNIOR FLAGS: First round: Cheadle A 18 Moorthorpe 1; Sale 9 Heaton Mersey A 13; Stockport 6 Sheffield Steelers 3.

DAILY TELEGRAPH SENIOR FLAGS: First round: Boardman and Eccles 9 Hulmeians 7; Old Waconians 5 Poynton 7; Sheffield Univ 6 Timperley 15.

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheadle Hulme 1 Cheadle 18; Heaton Mersey 11 Mellor 7. Second division: Wilmslow 10 Rochdale 11.

HATCH END: Women's south clubs and colleges tournament: Semi-finals: Centaurs 2 West London 0; Motspur 2 Purley 1. Final: Centaurs 1 Motspur 4.

[illegible]

National Conference League

Premier division

Saturday

Askam	22	Wigan St Pat	24
Beverley	13	Egremont	10
Mayfield	17	Dudley Hill	20
Heworth	8	Woolston	24
Oldham St A	27	Lock Lane	30
Walney Central	10	West Hull	9

Friday

Leigh Miners 52 Saddleworth 10

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oldham St A	9	8	0	1	208	89	16
Beverley	9	7	0	2	190	152	14
Lock Lane	9	6	0	3	254	121	12
Woolston	9	6	0	3	296	159	12
Walney Central	9	6	0	3	123	108	12
Leigh Miners	9	5	1	3	246	182	11
Egremont	9	5	1	3	183	131	11
West Hull	9	5	0	4	180	113	10
Wigan St Pat	9	4	2	3	173	211	10
Mayfield	9	3	0	6	149	201	6
Dudley Hill	9	3	0	6	118	244	6
Heworth	9	1	0	8	140	235	2
Askam	9	1	0	8	137	237	2
Saddleworth	9	1	0	8	104	246	2

First division

Barrow Island	6	Thornhill	36
East Leeds	4	Redhill	29
Millom	16	Blackbrook	23
Moldgreen	24	Milford	16
Oulton	34	Eastmoor	14
Skirlaugh	26	Shaw Cross	4
Wigan St Judes	22	Leigh East	36

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skirlaugh	9	8	0	1	259	113	16
Redhill	9	7	0	2	295	94	14
Thornhill	9	7	0	2	223	145	14
Wigan St Judes	9	6	0	3	194	168	12
Millom	9	6	0	3	180	142	12
Leigh East	9	5	0	4	255	195	10
Oulton	9	5	0	4	145	168	10
Eastmoor	9	4	0	5	187	244	8
Milford	9	3	0	6	181	238	6
Blackbrook	9	3	0	6	139	199	6
Shaw Cross	9	3	0	6	179	241	6
Moldgreen	9	2	0	7	176	202	4
East Leeds	9	2	0	7	141	225	4
Barrow Island	9	2	0	7	120	279	4

Second division

Crosfields	36	Dewsbury Moor	24
York Acorn	18	Normanton	34

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Featherstone A	7	7	0	0	222	83	14
Normanton	8	6	0	2	271	154	12
New Earswick	6	5	0	1	112	74	10
Siddal	6	4	0	2	160	83	8
Eccles	7	4	0	3	146	102	8
York Acorn	7	4	0	3	182	130	8
Ovenden	6	3	0	3	140	140	6
Dewsbury Moor	9	3	0	6	141	274	6
Hull Dockers	6	2	0	4	88	96	4
Dodworth	7	2	0	5	142	184	4
Crosfields	8	1	0	7	141	270	2
London Skolars	7	1	0	6	81	276	2

YORKSHIRE ELECTRICITY COUNTY CUP: Fourth round: Crofton 16 Featherstone Lions 24; Queens 38 Sharlston Rovers 8; Featherstone Miners 22 B R K 26, Mylon Warriors 26 Chequerfield 16; Siddal 22 West Bowling 18; Embassy 23 Park Amateurs 31; Ovenden 38 Ideal A B I 8; Hunslet Warriors 24 New Earswick A B 28.

BURTONWOOD BREWERY LANCASHIRE CUP: Third round: Eccles 23 Pilkington Recs 21; Haydock 18 Wigan Tech 12; Waterhead 36 Langworthy 4; Spotland Rgrs 28 Eccles A 8; Higginshaw 16 Folly Lane 22; Hindley 58 Wigan St Cuthberts 12; Wigan Rose Bridge 41 Thatto Heath 34; Widnes Albt 16 Farnworth 30.

AMATEUR INTERNATIONAL: Ireland 25 Scotland 18 (in Dublin).

[illegible]

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: New York Rangers 4 Tampa Bay 3; Dallas 2 Chicago 0; Colorado 3 Carolina 3 (OT); Edmonton 4 Pittsburgh 3. Saturday: Anaheim 4 New York Islanders 2; Florida 5 Boston 4; San Jose 4 New Jersey 8; Montreal 4 Ottawa 2; Toronto 4 Calgary 3; Dallas 3 Colorado 1; St Louis 5 Washington 2; Pittsburgh 3 Vancouver 2.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Washington	7	3	1	15	38	22
Philadelphia	7	3	1	15	38	28
New Jersey	5	4	0	10	26	21
NY Rangers	3	4	4	10	26	28
NY Islanders	3	4	2	8	25	24
Florida	3	5	2	8	21	31
Tampa Bay	2	7	2	6	20	35

Northeast division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Pittsburgh	7	4	2	16	38	28
Boston	7	4	1	15	35	30
Ottawa	6	3	3	15	36	29
Montreal	5	3	2	12	27	18
Buffalo	3	5	2	8	25	31
Carolina	2	7	3	7	28	39

Western Conference

Central division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
St Louis	9	2	1	19	43	25
Detroit	8	1	2	18	42	21
Dallas	7	4	1	15	38	26
Phoenix	4	3	2	10	28	27
Toronto	3	6	1	7	22	32
Chicago	2	8	0	4	12	30

Pacific division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Colorado	6	2	4	16	41	31
Anaheim	4	4	2	10	21	26
Edmonton	4	6	1	9	23	28
Los Angeles	3	5	3	9	36	36
Vancouver	3	5	2	8	25	27
San Jose	3	7	0	6	26	34
Calgary	1	8	2	4	25	39

SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scottish Eagles 2 Basingstoke Bison 1, Nottingham Panthers 2 Newcastle Cobras 1.

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Plate: Semi-final, first leg: Paisley Pirates 6 Slough Jets 4; Telford Tigers 8 Peterborough Pirates 4.

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هكذا من الأصل

One wave and I became a surfer girl

It took only a single session on a board to turn city dweller **Marianne Curphey** into a surfing addict

The tourists may have left the beaches, but for surfers the season is just starting. The sea is warm after long days of sunshine, the weather is still mild, and from time to time the weather systems bring perfect days of big waves, still winds and sunshine.

Between now and Christmas, thousands of hardcore surfers will be thronging to the coast to make the most of the weather before the January storms set in.

Three years ago I learnt to surf, barefoot and in an ill-fitting wetsuit, on a windswept Pembrokeshire beach. Even in July the water was bitterly cold, and after a two-hour lesson I cowered in the back of my instructor's van, wearing every item of clothing I could muster and shivering uncontrollably. But the yearning had begun, and shows no sign of abating.

Surfing is utterly pointless and completely addictive. Every great ride leaves you fired with enthusiasm for the next one. Only the most disciplined of surfers can leave the sea on a perfect big-wave day with enough energy to run back up the beach. On good days, most stay out as long as they have the strength to do so. This is also a symptom of the unpredictability of British waves. Really perfect days, with a light offshore wind, 5ft swell and the sun in the sky are relatively rare. Much time is wasted mooching about on cliff-tops willing the waves to pick up or waiting for the tide to turn. Patience is important.

Though it is physically demanding and fiendishly difficult to master, the basics of wave riding can be learnt in a week. Most courses teach you how to jump from lying on your belly to standing on the board while you are still on the beach. After the humiliation of simulating paddling while your board is wedged into the sand, you are then let loose in the white water to try to do the same while the board is moving. Surf schools use large foam beginners' boards, which are attached to your ankle with a leash so you can retrieve them.

This is a sound introduction to the years of punishment the sea will mete out. Even experienced surfers find the sea can be an unpredictable and capricious playmate. Mistiming a wave, particularly a large one, and pitching forward leads to a battering by the lip of a wave and brine being forced into your ears and nose. Later, you learn how to paddle out through walls of white broken waves to arrive gasping beyond the surf to the "green" unbroken waves.

"Just one more wave and I'll call it a day," I whisper as a wall of water rises behind me and I paddle furiously.

But catching a wave and standing up is just the beginning. Each wave is different. Storms change the contours of the sandbars along the beach and the subsequent point at which waves will break. Tides and the water's depth affect the quality of reef breaks. Some waves suck the reef dry, so that the sea bed is covered by just a few feet of water. There are only a few such reef breaks in Britain, but plenty in the Canary Islands, a popular winter surfing spot.

There are leashes available with quick-release pins so that you can free yourself if you are hurled on to the reef and your leash becomes wedged in crevices or coral.

The skill of surfing lies in anticipating the rhythm, speed and angle at which the lip of the wave will curl — a skill that cannot be taught.

Experienced surfers develop a sixth sense that enables them to predict waves. For this reason, the best surfers have the pick of the waves. If you share a beach with locals who know how the wave will shift and change as the tide rises and falls, they will always be paddling towards the horizon just as the biggest set of the day approaches.

Wave etiquette dictates that the surfer who is nearest the foaming curl of the wave has right of way, and other surfers must "kick out" of the wave to give way.

Though surfers pride themselves on being a mellow bunch, competing for the best waves causes friction. If a group of surfers who have paddled out together all through the depths of winter find their local break invaded by summer tourists, this friction can, occasionally, led to physical threats.

The sport is now so popular that most people have tried some form of wave-riding on a seaside holiday, whether it is stand-up surfing or the hugely popular body-boarding — done on small foam boogie boards that you ride on your belly. Some use pop-out boards, surfboards formed from moulded plastic; these are less responsive in the water than "custom" surfboards, which are formed from a foam blank covered with fibreglass and can be individually shaped.

In summer, the sea around Devon and Cornwall turns into alphabet soup, awash with every possible form of wave-craft — and precious few of the users are aware of the unwritten rules of surfing. Even at this time of year on the north coasts of Devon and Cornwall, there are hundreds of surfers competing for waves at the weekends. Improved wetsuit technology means that the real die-hards will continue to paddle out even in the most extreme conditions.

Crowding on Devon's most popular beach, Croyde Bay, is now so bad that the surfing magazine, *Carve*, recently devoted several pages to the problem. But some suggest that while crowding is irksome, the competitive spirit fosters higher standards. And although surfers sometimes snarl at one another, they reserve pure contempt for the summer novice surfers and body boarders who tumble into their path just as they are riding the best wave of the day.

The hierarchy of wave-riding is clear-cut. At the top are locals so used to the water they appear to have developed gills. At the bottom are the hapless tourists who put their wetsuits on back to front, flounder in the impact zone, and from time to time have to be rescued by the lifeguards.

And somewhere in the middle is me: a city dweller obsessed with the sea and yearning for one more wave.

SPORT FOR ALL

HOW TO START

SURFERS and boogie boarders can contact the British Surfing Association, in Penzance (01736 360250). The BSA has courses for all ages and abilities. There are also independent surf schools throughout the UK, some of which run BSA-approved courses.

Summer wetsuits start at £60, winter ones cost £100-plus. Second-hand boards sell for £150 or less, boogie boards range from £10 to £600.

PETER ANDREWS

Catch a wave and you're sitting on top of the world. The skill of surfing lies in anticipating the rhythm, speed and angle at which the lip of the wave will curl

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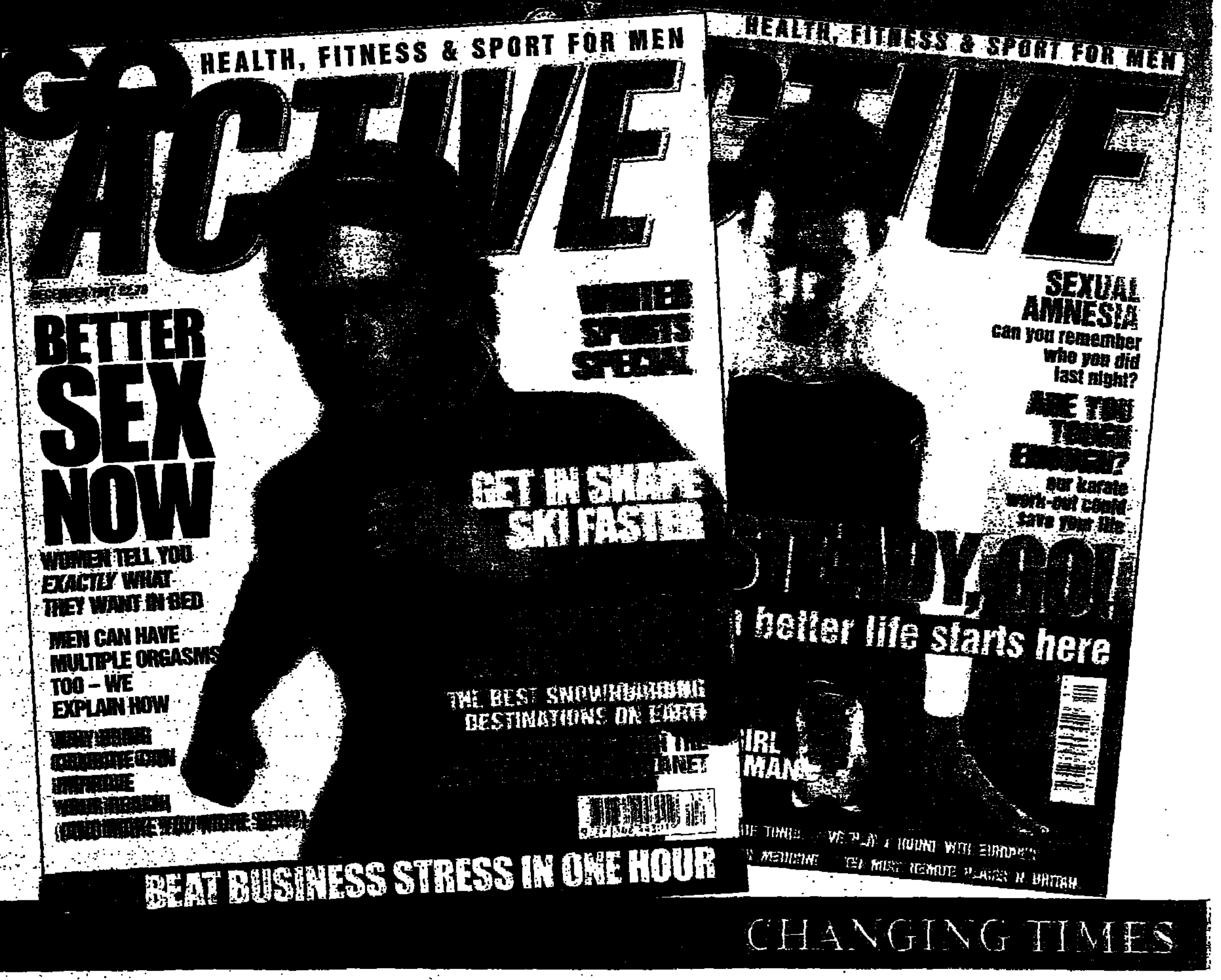

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CHANGING TIMES

هكذا من الإهمل

Christopher Thomas introduces a special report on Pakistan and the golden opportunity for Nawaz Sharif to modernise the country

Fate of a nation hangs in the balance

GAMMA

Nawaz Sharif during Pakistan's election campaign

Pakistan has the strongest democratic Government in its 50-year history. The army is quiescent and the political opposition is ineffectual. The *President's power to sack* prime ministers has been removed and the unpopular Islamic right wing has rarely been less troublesome.

Events have conspired to give Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, *the greatest opportunity* of any democratic leader — or, indeed, dictator — to impose his will on this troubled Islamic state as it struggles on the edge of bankruptcy.

Mr Sharif is the businessman's politician, a rich industrialist who understands the needs of the Karachi *commercial* houses, the Punjabi farmers, the cotton mills, the garment makers — people who can determine the *economic future of a nation* brought to its knees by ethnic violence and, even more crippling, unchecked plunder by politicians. The Bhutto years *were a catastrophe, enriching* the few and impoverishing the many, making a mockery of the young and fragile democracy.

The reports of the Bhuttos' alleged wealth in Swiss bank *accounts has added to the* popular disgust that all but wiped out the Pakistan People's Party in this year's general election, proof that Benazir Bhutto has sunk from being the nation's heroine to its most *discredited politician.*

She has not apologised nor admitted any wrong, and her increasingly bizarre outbursts on television have added to the *impression that she is woefully* out of touch with people who once loved her and are now bitter about the dreams she betrayed. Pictures of her *emerging from* Karachi central jail, her children holding her hands, are graphic images of a spectacular downfall from which it will be difficult, if not *impossible, for her to recover.* Asif Ali Zardari, her husband, is facing trial for alleged involvement in the murder of Murtaza Bhutto, *Miss Bhutto's estranged younger* brother, shot in a gun battle with police in suspicious circumstances.

There have been reports that the marriage is in trouble, but Mr Zardari has declared *publicly that he is sure his wife* will stand by him. She must know, however, that *she can never* recover politically while they remain together, such is his reputation.

Mr Zardari has been in prison for nearly a year and, in *his* occasional comments to journalists when visiting court, he has said he expects to stay there as long as *this Government is in* power. That is a reasonable assumption. If his wife fails to return to office, he may be there a long time, because he *has few political or business* friends after building a nefarious reputation while Minister of Investments in the last Government. There is no such department as investment *ministry* — it was a title that *enabled him to* become involved in many big financial transactions, earning him the title "Mr Ten Per Cent".

Miss Bhutto has been telling Pakistanis, who are among the world's poorest people, that she is rich but not a billionaire. She insisted that $13.6 million (£8.5 million) in frozen Swiss *accounts did not belong to her* and that she intended suing the Pakistan Government "when all this is over".

The Swiss authorities told *the story differently, announcing* that they had blocked 17 accounts held by Miss Bhutto, her husband, and her mother, Begum Nusrat Bhutto. The accounts *of at least six* companies, suspected to be the *front* companies of the Bhuttos, have also been blocked.

Miss Bhutto says her lawyers told her the six companies were not hers; *if the accounts* held billions of dollars, they were not hers either. "But anyway, it's not the question of accounts. Everybody has accounts. The question is, did I commit any crime? I did not *commit any crime.*"

The arguments are driving her further to the edge of political credibility, and leaving her ever weaker as an opposition force. Mr Sharif, who has a two-thirds parliamentary majority, hardly needs look over his shoulder to see what the Opposition is up *to, because it is up to little.* He is too strong, the Opposition is too weak.

His administration has not yet earned an unduly bad *reputation for corruption,* and *certainly its record to date is* infinitely better than that of its *predecessor.*

Miss Bhutto has not been charged with any offences in connection with the Swiss accounts so far, although there has been talk of *seeking to ban* her from contesting future *elections on the* ground that she is believed to be corrupt. She has implicitly admitted that there are Swiss accounts belonging to her.

She says: "The reason *people* who are in politics want to have safe accounts is because they are not safe in their own country."

She denies that any money in them came from kickbacks on contracts. "The money was not illegal," she insists.

The affair is liable to drag on for years, *further eroding* the Bhuttos' standing. The Daughter of the East, as she calls herself, is no longer the darling of Washington nor of the people, *most of whom* feel she betrayed them, their country and their hopes.

Change is slow but sure as the Government moves to put the economy back on track after a long slump

Tough decisions on the road to recovery

REVIVING Pakistan's economy, *which has been hit by a* long recession, is the top priority of the Government of Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, *Zahid Hussain writes.*

Mr Sharif, a member of one of the country's biggest business families, has moved fast to stem economic slide. But *the challenge seems to be* enormous as Pakistan faces a serious resource crunch and a looming foreign debt crisis.

Soon after returning to power, *the Government* announced a series of economic and tax reforms to boost the economy. It drastically cut taxes, reduced import tariffs to 40 per cent and provided incentives to exporters.

The return of *political* stability and Mr Sharif's liberal economic policies restored the confidence of businessmen and investors. The economy *has started to pick up, but the* pace is slow. Finance ministry officials believe it will take *some time for the impact* of the reforms to become apparent. The Government expects more than 5 per cent GDP growth rate in this financial *year after four years of low* economic growth.

The main thrust of the Government's economic policy is to boost the large-scale manufacturing sector, which has remained stagnant for the past few years.

The new reform package has improved the climate for both domestic and foreign investments. Government *officials hope that investment* will further accelerate with the development of the infrastructure and communication facilities.

The completion of the Lahore-Islamabad motorway, costing £400 million, will also give *impetus to industrial* investment in Punjab. Developing a road network is high on the Government's agenda and is likely to boost agriculture.

It has also moved to reform the state-owned banking sector, which has been on the verge of collapse because of inefficiency, huge debt and overstaffing. In addition, it *has moved to cut losses* by laying-off employees in the banking sector. Thousands of bank workers have been laid off under a golden handshake scheme. The measure is likely to increase efficiency of the banks and financial institu*tions and improve* profitability.

The Government also plans to privatise state-owned banks in the next few years.

The economic reforms *have* had a positive impact on foreign investment. Although foreign direct investment is still slow in coming, the portfolio foreign fund has shown a significant increase *in the past few months.*

The influx of foreign funds has helped the stock market to rise by almost 400 points. Low-priced stock has proved particularly attractive to foreign investors, *who have* diverted their funds from South-East Asia.

Pakistani officials hope that further improvement in the economy and the latest agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will encourage more investment.

Under the Extended Structural Adjustment Fund (ESAF), *Pakistan will receive* $1.6 billion (£1 billion) from the IMF. This will help to improve its balance of payments, which has remained *under pressure because of low* growth in exports and a high import bill.

The Government also plans to reform the taxation system in a bid to curb corruption and tax evasion, but it faces *stiff opposition* from diehard bureaucrats.

MARK EDWARDS

The Government aims to boost the manufacturing sector, such as textiles

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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, DESCON

Privatisation is the buzz

Zahid Hussain reports on the selling of power companies and other enterprises

Despite seven changes of government in seven years, the privatisation programme in Pakistan has been uninterrupted since 1990. Political instability last year slowed down the disinvestment of the state-owned *enterprises but things seem to* be moving once again.

Pakistan has deregulated its economy at a greater pace than have other South Asian *countries. There is agreement* among the big political parties on the privatisation programme, and since economic liberalisation began seven years ago, more than 100 state-owned enterprises and commercial banks have been privatised.

So far, Pakistan has privatised cement factories, steel mills, vegetable oil mills, fertiliser factories, electric power generation plants and two state-owned commercial *banks. Most of these* were nationalised in the mid-Seventies by the socialist Government of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and many ran up losses. Banks and financial *institutions* became the source of government patronage for successive governments and, eventually, insolvent. The state banking system, carrying more than £2 billion in bad loans, was on the verge of collapse. The de*nationalisation of these* institutions was necessary not only to cut government losses, but also to increase their efficiency.

Shares will soon be sold in two of the biggest banks

Apart from the selling of industrial enterprises, Pakistan has also disinvested 10 per cent of the shares of Pakistan Telecommunications, the biggest enterprise in the state sector.

After the sale of small enterprises, Parkistan last year moved towards the privatisation of big companies when it sold off the 1,300-megawatt Kot Addu power generation plant in Punjab to the British company, National Power.

The Kot Addu *plant is one of* the largest and most modern in the country. Its privatisation has opened the way for disinvestment from other power companies and the electric distribution system. Because of its liberal policy, Pakistan *has already* attracted huge investment in power generation. Several units with a combined generation capacity of more than 3,000MW have either *already* begun to operate or are about to be completed. Hub Power near Karachi, the biggest power generation plant in the private sector in Asia, is also managed by British National Power.

The Government plans next to withdraw its investment from other enterprises run by the state-controlled Water and Power Development Authority. The next in line is the 600MW Jamshoro power plant. Preliminary work has also been done for the privatisation of electrical power supply corporations in some major cities such as Karachi, Faisalabad and some other *cities of Punjab province.*

The privatisation of Karachi Electric Supply corporation is expected to be completed by next year. Parkistan has also involved foreign private investment in power transmission projects.

One such project is the 1,400km, 500KW transmission line across the country. The project has, however, been *delayed because of political* reasons. Pakistani officials believe that the privatisation of electrical supply would also help reduce the huge losses in transmission.

The privatisation programme and potential foreign investment has, however, been affected by a lack of clarity and often-changing policies, which also created uncertainty about foreign investment.

The new Government plans to put at least two leading banks and the Pakistan Telecommunications Corporation up for sale, as well as several other state-owned enterprises within the next few years.

Government officials hope that within five years all the financial institutions will be privatised.

Caught up in a chain reaction

The Kentucky Fried Chicken diner is the place to be seen in Lahore

ECONOMIC liberalisation has opened Pakistan to the world's biggest fast-food chains. First to arrive was Pizza Hut, which became an instant hit among the entertainment-starved people of Karachi. *Zahid Hussain writes.*

Within a couple of years the chain *had established three outlets in* Pakistan's commercial capital, and extended its business to Lahore. But the arrival of yet another US chain, a branch of Kentucky Fried Chicken, early this year sent people crazy.

In just four months KFC has opened *four outlets in the city,* and these have become popular not only with teenagers, but also with families. The company plans to set up 30 more outlets in Karachi and in the north of the country.

Pizza Hut has already become a big *status symbol. Locals could not face* their peers if they had not been to the pizza place on the ground floor of the city's most prestigious building, located in posh Clifton. The restaurant is always teeming, with families sitting in the foyer and groups of young people hanging around outside, waiting for somewhere to sit. For most people, it is more than just eating out, it is a leisure experience. This is just the beginning, for the food business is like an untapped goldmine.

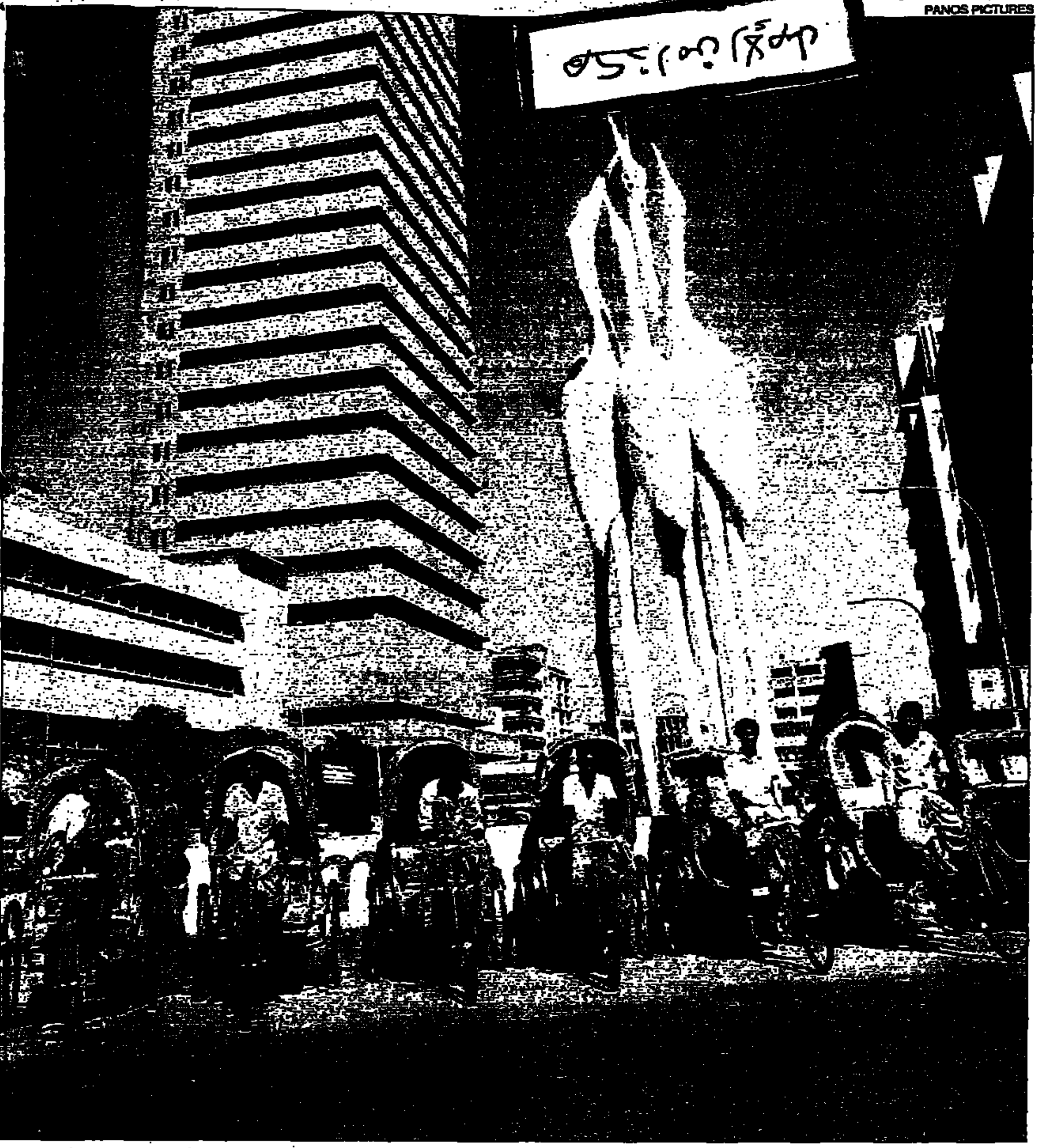
McDonald's, which is expected to open its first outlet in the country early next year, is already a household name among Pakistanis. The chain reported*ly plans to open more than 50 branches* in Karachi and Lahore.

All these fast food chains are in a race to make millions. Despite the fact that the food in these places costs the same as it does in the US — and when one converts dollars into Pakistani rupees, *the food becomes very expensive indeed* — there is never a slack period. There are no signs that the people of this huge city are going to be deterred by the costs. It is almost as if they consider eating out their reward for having been deprived of life's little pleasures for so long.

Interestingly, the recent ban on the traditional large wedding feasts — imposed by the new Government as part of its austerity drive — has also brought more business to the chains. People pour out of the marriage ceremony and head *for the fast food* places — no one wants to go home to eat after having got all dressed up.

PANOS PICTURES

Young middle-class Pakistanis demand Western fast food


PANOS PICTURES

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Modern Dhaka: the capital is bustling as skyscraper apartments rise from the rubble of demolished shanties

Democracy brings a new confidence

Ahmed Fazl presents a special report on a country overcoming the huge problems of its birth

Bangladesh is in the midst of a rapid transformation. Politics is dominated by a Western-style parliamentary democracy, recurrent bumper harvests have cut perennial food shortages and there is a renewal of confidence in the economy among foreign and domestic investors.

Barely 16 months after a general election that took Sheikh Hasina Wajed, the Prime Minister, and her secular Awami League to power, political calm reigns in this once-volatile country.

The election brought to an end two years of bitter political strife and paved the way for reforms that restored peace.

Today the skyline of Dhaka, the bustling capital of more than a million people, is changing as high-rise apartments stand on the rubble of demolished shanties. Sleek reconditioned Japanese cars clog the main streets, previously the haunts of political pickets and urchins, often locked in running battles with police.

New shopping malls are opening every month to cater to the needs of an emerging middle class — consumers who watch satellite television and send their children to English kindergartens.

Nonetheless, almost 40 per cent of Bangladesh's 120 million people live at subsistence level and only a third of the population are literate.

Sheikh Hasina, soon after assuming office, introduced reforms to strengthen the parliamentary system, guarantee future elections and ensure respect for human rights.

Though her offer of a government of "national consensus" after last year's election was spurned by the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party, two remaining groups in parliament, including the Jatiyo Party of H. M. Ershad, the former President, joined the administration.

The appointment of an eminent non-party figure as the constitutional President, after almost 25 years of military dictatorship and one-man rule, has created public trust in politicians. President Shahabuddin Ahmed, a retired Supreme Court Chief Justice, has limited powers in Bangladesh's political system but commands great moral authority for his social standing and his long career in the judiciary.

Analysts say that by sacrificing the highest constitutional office to an outsider, Sheikh Hasina and the Awami League were able to establish their credentials in forging national unity by healing past wounds.

Bangladesh emerged as a fully independent country on December 16, 1971, a quarter of a century after the 1947 partition of the sub-continent. East Bengal, having spent 25 years as the poorer, eastern wing of a Pakistan split geographically in two by India, and populated by a majority of Muslim Bengalis, had found that the common religion was unable to cover linguistic, cultural, and ethnic differences with the Urdu-speaking West Pakistanis. Three million civilians died in the nine-month war of secession led by the country's founding father and first President, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. But hardly three years later, Sheikh Mujibur was killed by a group of radical Muslim Army officers, who overthrew his secular Government.

Sheikh Hasina, who is 50, were not present on August 15, 1975, when Mujibur and 16 relatives were gunned down. The bloodbath created divisions between those who wanted to establish a secular democratic society and supporters of a theocratic state.

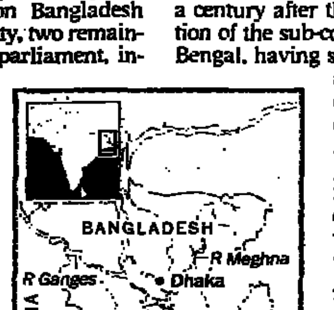
Mujibur's death led to further political assassinations and martial law. The return to power of the Awami League and Mujibur's daughter, 21 years later, is being seen as a restoration of public faith in non-communal politics, parliamentary democracy and a free economy.

The stipulation that a non-partisan caretaker government will be installed before future elections and the introduction of measures to separate the judiciary from the executive control of the Government, are other political reforms that reflect the new leadership's commitment to democratic values.

Recent endorsement of Bangladesh's economic reforms programme by the World Bank, which has committed more than $500 million annually to support a strong macro-economy and structural programme, has further enhanced investor confidence.

The bank estimates that Bangladesh will continue to push GDP growth rates steadily to almost 6 per cent annually. Crop production is likely to contribute at least a quarter of the growth.

As economic activities become more competitive, political controversies appeal less to people in the streets and recent strike calls by opposition groups have failed to evoke popular response.



'A cup of the finest tea spiced with intrigue

Dhaka likes its political and cultural life well-brewed, writes **Ahmed Fazl**

Although the streets of Dhaka are like those in any bustling city in a developing country — crowded, noisy and smoky — there is one striking feature of this metropolis which puts it in a different class.

The quantity of teashops here rivals any city in the world. They range from the turn-of-the-century restaurants in the steamy old part of the capital dispensing the hot drink with locally baked crispy *bakarkhanis* and the pavement stalls where clients sit on wooden benches around the tea wallah and his pots of boiling water.

Since the Bengalis were introduced to tea by the British planters more than a century ago teashops have figured in political upheavals, social revolutions, art and literature. The vast population is apparently hooked on the drink, a national obsession which has encouraged an industry employing an estimated half a million people.

The Bengalis like their tea brewed with the cream of milk and political gossip. They also like to trade rumours and mope. So teashops have created both firebrand politicians and poets.

Leaning over a scarred wooden table in Arzoo teashop off the sandstone Lalbagh district, Abdul Karim squints over a cigarette and his steaming cup of tea. A greying political activist and connoisseur of poetry, cricket and other national obsessions, he looks drowned in nostalgia as he recites a couplet by the Indian poet Tagore with reverence worthy of a hymn.

Madhu's Canteen, located on the Dhaka University campus, is the best known of contemporary teashops. For more than four decades it has been the popular haunt of student revolutionaries, budding politicians and struggling writers.

Many of Bangladesh's present-day political leaders and top professionals have supped tea with leftist intellectuals, actors and assorted revolutionaries. Some still like to visit the venerable teashop. But student clients today are engrossed in career talk.

A Bangladeshi sociologist has described the institution of the teashop as a frontier zone between public and private life. In growing urban congestion the teashops provide the spaces for reflection and debate over the problems of life.

"Very few cities have developed the almost fanatic obsession for teashops," says Kabir Chowdhury, a local newspaper columnist. For many Dhaka residents living in cramped flats the teashops provide the illusion of socialising.

But times change. "I have lost many regular clients to the slick new fast-food pizzeria next door," said Rustam Ali, a teashop owner on the once elegant Rankin Street. "But those who like a good cup of tea and friendship are still sticking with me."

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has led modernisation

Links forged long ago

FROM the beginning of her term of office, Sheik Wajid Hasina, the Prime Minister, has acted to build closer ties with the West.

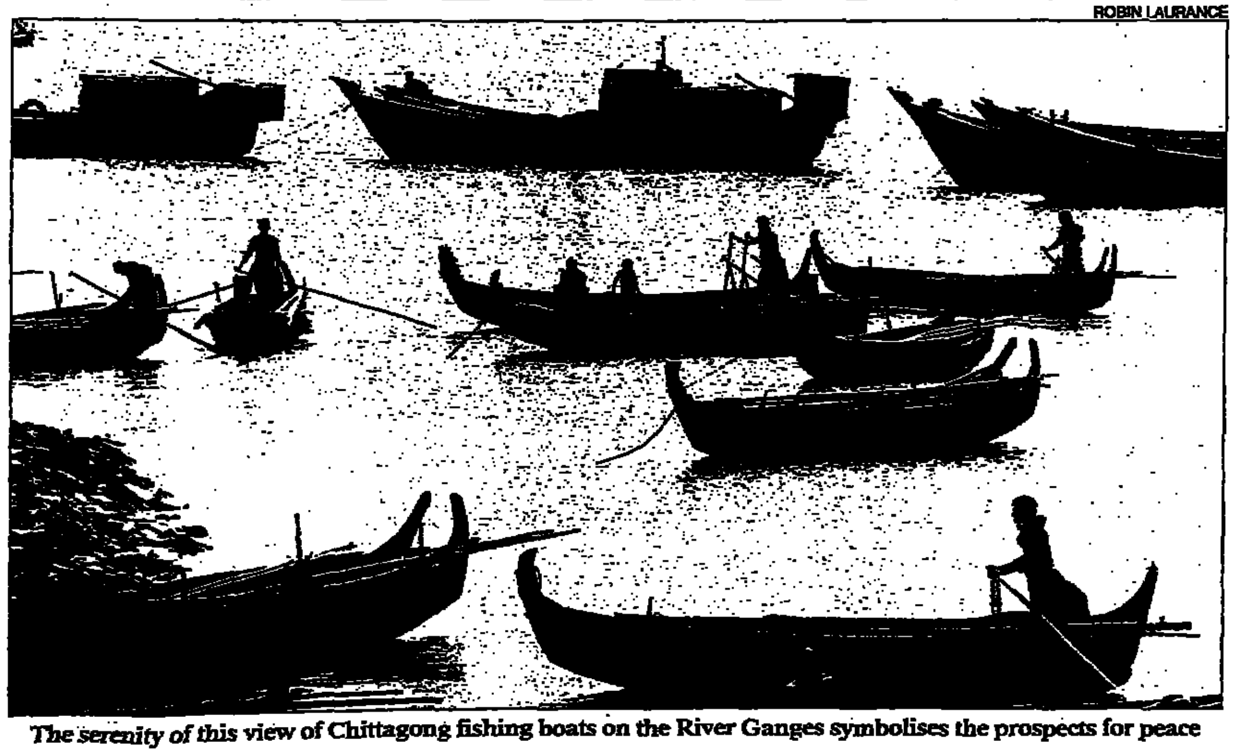
This is especially true in the case of Britain, in view of the historical links between the two countries — the Dhaka Government is the third-largest recipient of British official development assistance.

When Sheikh Hasina met Tony Blair in Edinburgh over the weekend, the two cemented the warm relations established when John Major visited Bangladesh early this year. The presence of nearly half a million Bangladeshis in the United Kingdom has also strengthened cultural and business ties between the two countries.

British companies have traditionally operated in Bangladesh, but several UK firms joining in the search for oil and gas in that nation's offshore islands have put Anglo-Bangladeshi investment ties on a higher plane. Bangladesh is self-sufficient in natural gas, with 50 trillion cubic feet of reserves.

The search for new gas fields continues unabated. Recent discoveries on the southern island of Bhola has boosted reserves by ten per cent. Oil prospecting in the Bay of Bengal is under way, with plans to develop the coal deposits in the north.

Major and Sheikh Hasina


ROBIN LAURANCE

The serenity of this view of Chittagong fishing boats on the River Ganges symbolises the prospects for peace

New hope as disputes end

Two treaties should end years of often-deadly political rows

SOON after assuming office, the Awami League initiated contacts with neighbouring states, including India, that led to the signing of an historic treaty on sharing the waters of the Ganges.

The river, which originates in the Himalayan foothills, sustains the lush cropland of India and Bangladesh. The treaty, a diplomatic triumph, will, it is hoped, end 30 years of dispute. India and Bangladesh share 53 other rivers but the Ganges has always been the main irritant blocking the development of bilateral ties.

Though the political rivals of Sheikh Hasina Wajed, the Prime Minister, called the treaty a "sell-out" there has been spontaneous international support for the Government for removing an old obstacle in the path of positive regional ties.

After the years of bickering over who should get how much of the water, the treaty has cleared the way for Dhaka to seek international finance to build a barrage in the Ganges downstream in Bangladesh for storage of the extra water of the rainy season to irrigate farmlands during the dry months.

Sheikh Hasina also decided early that her Government must reach an agreement with the *Shanti Bahini* (Peace Force) minority campaigning for a homeland in the Chittagong Hill Tracts bordering eastern India and Burma. After more than five meetings spread over the years, the Government and the tribal leaders are close to an accord. The hostility has claimed the lives of more than 8,000 tribal people, non-tribal settlers, Chakma guerrillas and government troops.

The Government agreed to give the hills the maximum automony permitted by the Constitution, allowing the local administration to be run by elected tribal leaders, preserving the land rights of the minority people and restricting Bengali settlements from the plains. For this, the Government has exacted commitments to end the hostilities, which have engaged more than 10,000 regular soldiers and paramilitary troops. Officials in Dhaka say that the peace treaty is likely to be signed next month.

The fruit of the loom

Ahmed Fazl looks at the booming garment industry

At the crack of dawn, lights are switched on in the myriad garment factories dotting the sprawling metropolis of Dhaka as tens of thousands of young women descend on the streets to join the early morning shift.

These women, wearing colourful saris and carrying lunchboxes, constitute Bangladesh's new workforce, changing the economic and social face of the Muslim-majority country.

The garment industry, almost totally geared for exporting to Western markets, is booming. Growing at a rate of more than 20 per cent a year, the industry is set to export ready-made wear worth $3 billion annually by the turn of the century. More than a million people, 80 per cent of them women, work in 2,500 or so factories, most of them in Dhaka and the southern port city of Chittagong.

Starting virtually from scratch in the late 1970s, the industry has spawned the growth of scores of spinning, weaving and dyeing mills to serve the demands of garment manufacturers. Every fifth shirt worn in the European Union has probably been made in Bangladesh.

The country is on the threshold of a textile revolution, with composite factories equipped with modern machinery turning out fabrics for the export market.

Bangladesh has been known as the land of weavers. Across the bank of the Sitalakhya River near Dhaka, villagers in the 16th century used to spin the gossamer yarn that had made the *mulim*. Seventy thousand weavers still work the looms, turning out products that appeal to local and foreign buyers. The present generation of manufacturers wants to recreate the country's glorious textile heritage.

The rapid growth of the garment industry has led to a radical change in society's attitudes. Taboos against women seeking jobs outside the home have broken down. Women have asserted their rights and, as earning members in their families, have won new status. Observers see this as a peaceful social revolt against religious extremism.

The textile boom has attracted companies from South Korea, Japan, Thailand and China to the country's successful export-processing zones. The Government has put in place a concerted programme to encourage foreign investment, including an incentive package considered among the most attractive in the region. Foreign companies invested more than $1 billion last year.

Macroeconomic stability has been achieved, with inflation running at around 3 per cent, by capping wasteful public spending. Analysts are worried, however, that the implementation of higher salaries for civil servants from July could increase inflationary pressure.

Private sector to transform transport

IN THE past 15 months the Government has shortlisted 29 state-owned enterprises for immediate sale, and foreign investors can buy any of the units put up for auction.

Ports and port services are now open to private sector investment. Britain's KCM is leading a consortium that proposes to build Bangladesh's first privately owned container port in the south.

Completion of a multi-billion-dollar bridge over the Jamuna — an unpredictable river that divides the relatively undeveloped northwest from the high-growth south — should rapidly improve transport.

The bridge, due to open next summer, will boost political and economic integration of the country. Private participation is also welcomed in telecommunications and parts of the state-run railroad.

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هكذا من الأصل

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,304.00	Allied Domecq	510	- 5½	5.3	15.3
246.00	Bulmer (HP)	466	- 15½	3.9	11.0
30.20	Burn Stewart	51	- 2½	8.6	...
172.60	Glenmorangie A	975	...	1.7	24.1
12,216.92	Grand Met	579	- 5½	3.2	18.6
17,123.60	Guinness†	587	- 52	3.3	16.1
422.70	Highland Dist	316½	+ 5	3.6	14.3
225.20	Matthew Clark	754½	- 3	11.8	7.6
6.27	Merrydown W	57½	- 1½	6.7	14.2
5,203.50	SA Breweries	1765½		2.1	

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
16,556.80	ABN-AMRO	1190½	- 37½	2.7	15.9
13,442.20	Abbey Ntl	952	- 38½	3.6	15.6
4,062.40	Alliance & Leic	686	- 20	2.9	16.3
4,462.30	Allied Irish	527½	- 9½	3.5	15.0
6,373.30	Aus New Z	427½	- 80	4.4	..
38,744.60	Bank America	4750	+ 48½		
6,433.00	Bank Scotland†	528	+ 3½	2.1	14.6
23,316.70	Barclays	1535	- 140	2.7	14.8
3,774.80	Bk of Ireland	772½	- 14½	2.6	17.1
41,185.30	Citicorp	8508½	- 318½		
6,741.10	Commerzbk	1669½	- 28½	2.8	..
16,632.00	Dai Ichi Kan Y	534½	- 38	0.8	
20,569.60	Deutsche Bk	4112½	- 208¼	1.5	
496.60	Espirito Santo	1253½	- 12½	2.9	
17,543.90	Fuji Bank Y	6254½	- 49½	0.7	
14,098.90	HSBC	1612	- 347	3.6	13.1
27,804.90	HSBC HK	1543	- 316	3.7	12.5
17,193.50	Halifax	685	- 35	2.7	23.1
511.70	Irish Perml	595	- 30	3.6	16.5
38,998.60	Lloyds TSB	723	- 63½	2.5	21.1
12,969.50	Nat Aust Bk	867	- 71¼	4.4	12.6
16,241.00	Nat West	947	- 25½	4.0	14.9
2,157.80	Northern Rock	486	- 11½	2.3	19.2
5,762.00	Ryl Bk Scot	670	- 31	3.6	14.4
6,646.40	Stand Chart	670	- 110	2.9	11.7
16,061.10	Wells Fargo	£164½	..	1.9	
6,516.40	Westpac	366	- 26½	4.2	
4,752.00	Woolwich†	297	- 24	3.3	17.6

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

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CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

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ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

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FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

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THE TIMES

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No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	KBC Adv Tech	Oil & Gas	
2	Tinsley Robor	Print Pap	
3	TransTec	Engin'ing	
4	Stanley Lsr	Leisure	
5	Crtld Txt	Textiles	
6	Next	Ret Gen	
7	Taylor Nelson	Media	
8	Scapa	Chemicals	
9	Rathbone Brs	Oth Fin	
10	Somic	Print Pap	
11	Rebus	Sup Serv	
12	Inveresk	Print Pap	
13	Watts Blake	Mining	
14	McLeod Rssl	Div Inds	
15	Royalblue	Sup Serv	
16	Sndrsn Elc	Sup Serv	
17	Mrston Thmp	Breweries	
18	Lookers	Distrib's	
19	Amey	Bld & Cons	
20	Ryl Dltn	House Gds	
21	Thrp Ant Inc	Pharm'cals	
22	Natl Express	Transport	
23	TDG	Transport	
24	Clarkson (H)	Transport	
25	Leslie Wise Gp	Textiles	
26	Blick	Electronic	
27	Stoves	House Gds	
28	Hghlnd Dstl	Alc Bev	
29	Mrgn Sndll	Bld & Cons	
30	Wyko	Distrib's	
31	Hntigh Tec	Healthcare	
32	Caverdale	Distrib's	
33	Parkland	Textiles	
34	Mang Brnz	Engin'ing	
35	Plasmec	Electronic	
36	Monteagle	Mining	
37	GGT Group	Media	
38	Lands Imp	Property	
39	Hitachi Cred	Oth Fin	
40	Cookson	Div Inds	
41	WPP	Media	
42	McKay Secs	Property	
43	TVCp	Media	
44	Matthews (B)	Food Man	

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Portfolio

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Please make a note of your daily totals to match the weekly dividend published in the *Sunday Times* to win £5,000.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun

Weekly accumulator total

Two winners shared the prize yesterday, each receiving £1,000. They are: A Singer, Rhyl, Denbighshire; J Walls, Edinburgh.

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Geo Interactive, Old English Pub Co, Silk Industries. **Finals:** UPF Group. **Economic statistics:** CBI survey of small and medium enterprises.

TOMORROW

Interims: Hit Entertainment, Skandia Insurance (nine months), Soco Int'l, Toye & Co, West 175 Enterprises. **Finals:** Bellway, My Holdings, Overseas Investment Trust.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: BAT Industries, Body Shop Int'l, Pilkington, J Sainsbury. **Finals:** Morgan Grenfell Equity. **Economic statistics:** UK mortgage repossessions (Q3). Alan Greenspan testifies to US Congress.

THURSDAY

Interims: BT (Q2), Anglian Water, Danka Business, Nokia (Q3), Scottish Mortgage & Trust, Telewest Comms (Q3), Tullow Oil. **Finals:** AG Holdings, Air London Int'l, Ashanti Goldfields (Q3), Pressac. **Economic statistics:** US weekly jobless claims, US September new home sales.

FRIDAY

Interims: Cairngorm Building Soc, Meltek Group. **Economic statistics:** BBA end-September monthly mortgage lending.

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Memory Corp, Centrica, Brent International, BWI, Watmoughs. *The Sunday Telegraph:* Buy Cable & Wireless, SFI, Allied Leisure, Charlton Athletic, The Electronics Boutique. *The Observer:* Buy Schroders, Hepworth, BICC. Sell British Energy. Avis Europe, BAA. *Independent on Sunday:* Buy Care UK. Sell Guardian Royal Exchange. *The Mail on Sunday:* Buy Chloride, Swallowfield.

Charges cut into BT's first-half £1.5bn

BRITISH TELECOM: There will be no signs of jet-lag, hopefully, when Sir Iain Vallance and Sir Peter Bonfield unveil half-year results on Thursday. The figures were scheduled for November 13, but were hastily brought forward. BT is unlikely to give much away about the expected three-way link-up with GTE and MCI in America, despite the best efforts of brokers.

On the face of it the figures are unlikely to impress the City. Alan Lyons at ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, expects pre-tax profits for the second quarter to come in at £630 million, compared with £730 million for the corresponding period. It stretches the total for the first six months to £1.51 billion.

But the figure will be struck before exceptionals of £120 million relating to the payment of a special dividend to employees. Further write-offs will include £45 million for the development of Cellnet's new billing system and £75 million of charges relating to the original bid for MCI.

Brokers are also likely to question the low redundancy charge. In the first quarter of last year the charge was £52 million, and in the second quarter £183 million. The figure this time is likely to be much lower, though £250 million has been budgeted for the year as a whole.

On the trading front the pressure of lower tarrif charges will continue to take its toll, although this may be offset by a further 8 per cent rise in traffic growth.

BAT INDUSTRIES: Third-quarter results, due Wednesday, will be dominated by the proposed merger of the group's financial services arm with Zurich. BAT will contribute Eagle Star, Allied Dunbar and America's Farmers Insurance to create one of the biggest insurance and asset management companies in the world with a price tag of around £25 billion. BAT's tobacco businesses will have a separate listing.

These results are unlikely to impress, with most brokers looking for a downturn in profits after disappointing performances in both the US and Asia-Pacific rim.

Pre-tax profits are expected to come in at £1.8 billion, down 7 per cent on the £1.97 billion achieved during the same period last time. Earnings are expected to be down from 38.5p to 35.5p.

Financial services has made steady progress, in the absence of weather-related claims.

The whole subject of tobacco litigation drags on and it seems unlikely that any settlement will be achieved in the near future.

THE BODY SHOP: Any improvement in sales is likely to come from the group's aggressive store opening programme rather than organic growth. Interim figures on Wednesday should show pre-tax profits up from £11.8 million to £12.8 million, a rise of 9 per cent. Earnings should be up 25 per cent from 3.6p to 4.5p. Brokers are looking for the payout to rise to 2p from 1.5p.

J SAINSBURY: The annual meeting indicated a rise in like-for-like sales 4.2 per cent during the first 16 weeks of the first half, while there were signs of growing food inflation. So the market is looking to see the group back on the growth tack after last year's first ever profits setback. NatWest Markets forecasts an increase of around 4 per cent from £387 million to £402 million on Wednesday, with earnings 6 per cent higher at 14.8p a share. The broker expects Sainsbury to have maintained sales growth, although rising inflation will have eroded volume levels. Volume growth for the year is likely to be between 1 per cent and 2 per cent, with the help of the British Airways cheap flights promotion covering the second half.

Gross margins are likely to have been maintained. Like-for-like sales at Homebase will be up 8.5 per cent, while operating losses at Texas should be down. Industrial disputes in the US are likely to result in a lower than expected contribution. The payout should grow around 6 per cent to 3.7p.

ANGLIAN WATER: Anglian Water kicks off the interim dividend season for the water companies on Thursday, with interest focused on on the dividend payment, which will set the target level for the rest of the sector. There will also be interest in how the group accounts for the windfall tax.

Anglian's pre-tax profits look set to grow from £132.7 million to £145 million, with a three-month contribution from Hartlepool Water. Earnings are expected to show a small decline from 46.7p to 45.3p. The payout will almost certainly be another generous one pitched at around 11.5p, up 13 per cent from 10.2p.

Water supplies are giving cause for concern, with stocks already at their lowest autumn levels ever.

PILKINGTON: Half-year figures, due Wednesday, are likely to be overshadowed by the review carried out by Paolo Scaroni, the new chief executive. Pre-tax profits will fall about £20 million to £62 million. But the cost of shedding 1,000 jobs and the closure of a major plant in Germany will result in restructuring charges of between £100 million and £120 million. Earnings will decline to 2.7p a share from 4p. The one bright spot remains the US autoglass division. The dividend is likely to be pegged at 1.75p.

Investors hope for a clear US line from BT's Sir Iain Vallance and Sir Peter Bonfield

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

FINANCIAL markets will be looking over their collective shoulders for any hint of direction. In a week light on UK statistics, the main influences should be knocking knees and talking heads.

Today Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, aims to clarify the UK position on the euro in the Commons. He seems most unlikely to add certainty to the UK's intentions in 2001-02, but it cannot be entirely ruled out. The more sceptical he sounds on entry, the more sterling should strengthen.

On Tuesday six German institutes have their chance to soothe or frighten with a joint autumn economic report. There may be more optimism this time on meeting Maastricht tests, but they are not likely to want the Bundesbank to put up interest rates again in a hurry.

On Wednesday Alan Greenspan, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, testifies to Congress. He is sensitive to the negative impact of any Wall Street crash and will not want to rock the boat. Optimists will hope for hints that the Hong Kong affair has put off any need for higher interest rates.

A simpler US indicator is the advance estimate of third-quarter output on Friday. Standard & Poor's expects a further slowing to annual GDP growth of 2.8 per cent, but others look for 3 per cent.

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *36*

WHIPSAW

(b) Something that is disadvantageous in two ways. Originally and chiefly in the US. A metaphor from the frame-saw with a narrow blade, used especially for curved work. "The whipsaw of paying high prices for what they bought and being forced to receive low prices for what they sold."

SOVKHOZ

(c) In the former Soviet Union, a state-owned farm. A portmanteau word from *sov(étskoe)* Soviet + *khoz(yáistvo)* a farm. "The collective farms are not to be confused with the State farms or *sovkhoz*, which are owned by the State and worked by government employees."

VISGY

(a) Also *visgie*. West country dialect for *bisgay*. An agricultural implement, in shape between a mattock and a hammer, for beating down hedges. "The day being Sunday, he could not dare to risk outraging public opinion by carrying shovel or visgy through the open streets."

ZOHAR

(b) The major text of Jewish Cabbalism, in the form of an allegorical interpretation of the Pentateuch. Literally the Hebrew for "light, splendour". "Although they derived their inspiration from the same source — Zohar and Kabbala — Ashkenazi and Sepharadi mysticism inevitably took different directions."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Bh3! 2 Qxa8 Bc5+ 3 Kh1 Bxg2+! 4 Kxg2 Qg4+ 5 Kf1 Qf3+ 6 Ke1 Qf2 checkmate

Amsterdam brokerage arrests

The Dutch arm of James Capel, HSBC's stockbroking business, is at the centre of an investigation into suspected money laundering. Four brokerages in Amsterdam, including Van Meer James Capel, were searched by Dutch justice officials late on Friday after a six-month probe that extended to Britain, Switzerland and the Dutch tax haven Curacao.

Three people were arrested on suspicion of being involved with insider trading, bribery, receiving, fraud, forgery and tax violations, and a fourth person is being sought.

Jersey cream

Jersey's finance industry generated a profit of £782 million last year, accounting for half of the island's income tax yield. The 75 banks in the capital, St Helier, showed an overall profits increase of 10 per cent, producing £150,140 profit per employee (up from £141,890 in 1995). Profits from fund management rose by 24.9 per cent. Accountants' profits rose by 13.3 per cent, while the increase for trust and company administrators was 9.5 per cent.

PO faced

The Communications Workers' Union will lobby managers on the future of the Post Office today, as the Department of Trade and Industry is poised to publish a review which could allow a role for the private sector. Derek Hodgson, acting joint general secretary, said: "I sincerely hope that Ian McCartney's review lets us get talk of privatisation out of the way and gives us the chance to work with management in a business unfettered by unnecessary restraints and outside influences."

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هكذا من الأهل

THE FACTS

Market Cap: £112 billion
Post-tax profit: £5.69 billion
Oil production: 2.3 million barrels per day
Gas sales: 8.3 billion cubic feet per day
Proven oil reserves: 9.4 billion barrels
Proven gas reserves: 53,027 billion cubic feet
Employees: 101,000
Activities:
Oil exploration, refining and marketing, chemicals and coal

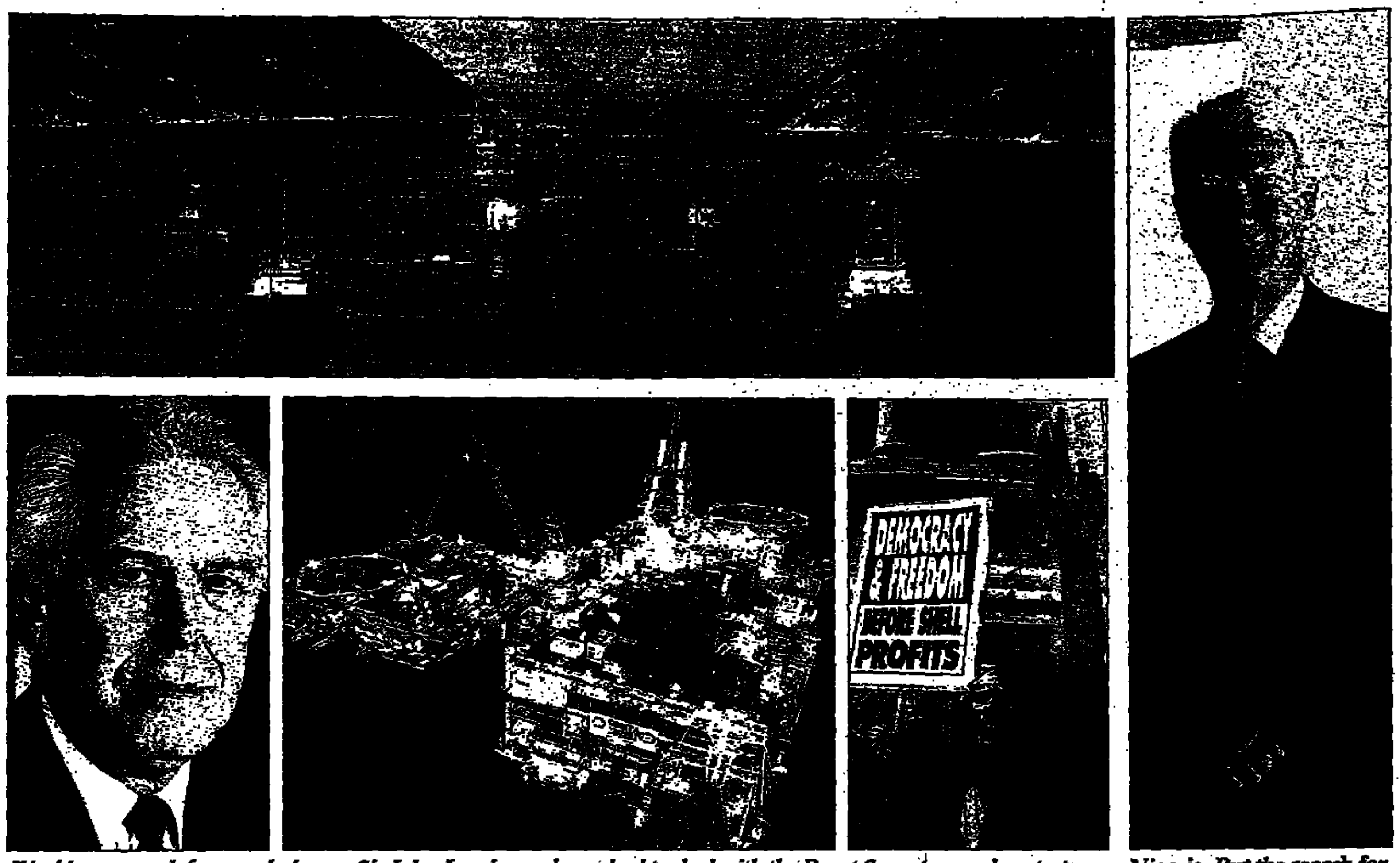
THE BOARD

The "Shell" Transport & Trading Company plc is headed by **Mark Moody-Stuart**, 57, who succeeded Sir John Jennings as chairman of the British holding company in July.

Moody-Stuart has also taken on the mantle of chairman of the committee of managing directors that runs the Royal Dutch/Shell group. This committee is where the buck stops. It is responsible for strategy and approves all long-term investment decisions.

The chairmanship normally rotates between Royal Dutch and Shell Transport directors. It was previously held by Cor Herkstroter, of Royal Dutch, who launched the head office redundancy programme and shake-up in management structure.

■ Other board members include:
Sir John Jennings, 60. Former chairman of Shell Transport. In the hot seat during the Brent Spar and Nigeria crises.
Phil Watts, 52. Joined Shell as a seismologist. Currently in charge of planning environment and external affairs.
Sir Peter Holmes, 65. Chairman of Shell Transport from 1985-93.
Sir William Purves, 65. Non-executive director; chairman of HSBC Holdings.
Sir Anthony Acland, 67. Non-executive. Formerly Permanent under-secretary at the Foreign Office and Ambassador to Washington. Also on board of Booker and Eton College.
Professor Robert O'Neill, 60: Non-Executive. Professor of History at All Souls College, Oxford. former director of International Institute for Strategic Studies.
Sir Ronald Oxburgh, 62. Non-executive. Former chief scientific adviser, Ministry of Defence. Rector, Imperial College.


DEMOCRACY & FREEDOM BEFORE SHELL PROFITS

World renowned: former chairman Sir John Jennings, above, had to deal with the Brent Spar, top, and protests over Nigeria. But the search for new markets such as natural gas has helped Shell, now under the leadership of Mark Moody-Stuart, right, to cultivate a better public image

Ask anyone under 25 what they think of Shell and you will probably get a litany of abuse, ranging from complaints about environmental pollution (the Brent Spar) to indignant remarks about human rights violations (Nigeria). This vast enterprise — the world's largest oil company — has definitely come of age in its centenary year. Far from being a money-grabbing business, Shell has taken on the role of the institution people most love to hate.

It is a compliment, of course, but one Shell would rather do without. In private, aggrieved Shell executives profess to feeling misunderstood and beat their breasts for their failure to communicate better. The fuss over the Brent Spar storage tank and the demands by human rights organisations that the oil company use its power to stop the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa in Nigeria made Shell executives appear confused.

The irony, of course, is that inside Shell there was no confusion. With almost military precision Shell's engineers had determined that sea disposal of the spar was the least risky alternative and, of course, consulted nobody. To their initial bemusement and later horror, the public and media chose to believe inaccurate propaganda broadcast by Greenpeace instead of Shell's own data. Likewise, they regarded as ridiculously naive suggestions that a foreign oil company should attempt to bully the Nigerian military government. Shell's problem, it seemed to the men that run Shell, was the confusion that reigned everywhere except within Shell.

Such confidence, which some might call arrogance, is nurtured over a long period of time. It can be sustained only by genuine success. The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company was founded 100 years ago by Marcus Samuel, a Jew from the East End of London whose father was a merchant, importing exotic shells that were then fashionable ornaments. By the time Samuel established the company it was doing a brisk business shipping kerosene from the oilfields in Baku in the Caucasus to the Far East.

Samuel was a buccaneering capitalist, going out to Borneo in search of new supplies of the greasy black stuff, better to compete with Rockefeller's Standard Oil. But he was no match for the determined Henri Deterding, a Dutch accountant who ran the then tiny Royal Dutch Petroleum.

Success and the title of Lord Mayor of London went to Samuel's head to the near ruin of his business, and Deterding managed to prise Samuel away from a merger with Standard Oil. In 1907, after endless negotiations in which Deterding repeatedly changed the terms of the deal, a much smaller and financially strapped Shell became the minority partner of the 60-40 Royal Dutch/Shell joint venture, a corporate structure that remains in place today.

Deterding can be credited with the existence of the vast empire that now makes up the Shell group, but his influence was not always benign. Late in life, his authoritarian bent developed into full-blown fascism. He became a fan of Mussolini and, although not apparently anti-semitic (he admired his partner Samuel), he fell in love with Nazi Germany, retiring there in 1936.

At its very heart, Shell is a compromise, run by a committee of managing directors, a marriage of hard-nosed Dutch engineers and wheeling and dealing British accountants.

But the organisation left by Deterding was very decentralised. Local Shell companies had, until recently, enormous independence, a matrix structure that created the need for a big bureaucracy, a virtual diplomatic service in permanent transit between Shell Centre and the outposts, bringing advice on strategy from the centre and reporting (some might say spying) on local operations.

By the early 1990s that structure was becoming unweildy; like the late British Empire Civil Service, Shell had become cosy while rival oil companies such as Exxon and BP had drastically slimmed down and raised their rates of return. Shell was earning a meagre 10 per cent on its investment and, more ominously, was not finding new reserves at the same rate at which it produced oil from the ground.

So Shell followed suit and shed non-core businesses such as its loss-making metals businesses. Two years ago Cor Herkstroter, the chairman of Royal Dutch, launched an internal upheaval that led to the sacking of a third of head-office staff. The line of command was simplified and Shell executives were told to stop playing politics and make bottom-line decisions.

Shell's big challenge is to build on its inheritance; despite a period of low reserve additions; it has colossal untapped oil and gas assets. Its £40 billion balance sheet contains £7 billion in cash and it runs a treasury operation more successful than that of many banks. The company wants to raise returns to the level of the best in the oil industry but, for tax reasons, it has ruled out the simple expedient of buying back its shares.

Instead, Shell is again investing agressively, with multibillion-dollar projects to develop gasfields at huge depths in the Gulf of Mexico and in environmentally sensitive areas such as the Peruvian rainforest. After shedding non-core businesses acquired in the 1970s, Shell in the 1990s is investing big sums in power generation and renewable energy, a diversification that is raising eyebrows in the City.

Shell's share price has barely flinched at criticism of the company, but internally its staff are deeply sensitive to the attacks. Whether or not through a subconscious need to clear the cupboards of any memories of the elderly Deterding, Shell has adopted, with help from Integrity Works, its adviser, one of the most striking sets of business principles in the world, including a duty to express support for human rights.

In an age when many have lost confidence in the moral authority of government, the church and the police, some have turned to big business as the last potential saviour. Yet wealth and technological power do not bring solutions to political problems. Shell's reward for being a high-profile member of the establishment has been vilification.

Internally, Shell is trying to change the inheritance of a Victorian empire into something a bit more like a Roman empire. Shell can no longer afford to run its outposts with a band of Dutch and British expats, so it brings local talent to London for training, then returns them like new Romans to run the colonies. Inevitably, that will bring pressure on Shell to change the white and male appearance of its Anglo-Dutch leadership, who are, nevertheless, modestly paid by international standards.

Spanning the globe, the world's largest oil company is still a very reluctant neo-colonial master. But it no longer believes it can hide behind the word "business".

CARL MORTISHED

"Shell will achieve an industry average return on capital employed of 15 per cent by 2001, up from 12 per cent last year, while simultaneously expanding the asset base by 25 per cent. Shell has overaken the rest of the industry on all size measures over the past decade; it is now in the process of establishing domination in financial terms." — *Fergus Macleod, NatWest Markets.*

"Shell is quite growth-oriented and is preparing to put significant money into power generation. If push came to shove, Shell would tend to favour growth over return." — *Colin Smith, BZW.*

"Shell is probably one of the safest stocks in the market, with a good spread of business and risk. As long as the world needs energy it is going to need Shell. It is safe and boring, but sometimes safe and boring is the right thing to be." — *Paul Spedding, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson.*

Ethical policy¹	8½/10
Fat-cat quotient²	10/10
Financial record	*7/10*
Share performance	9/10
Attitude to staff	8/10
Strength of brand	8/10
Innovation	5/10
Annual report	9/10
City star rating	5/10
Future prospects	*9/10*
Total	79/100

Ethical policy is evaluated by ¹Integrity Works. The Fat-cat quotient, in which best boardroom pay practice scores highest, is provided by ²Crisp Consulting

NatWest launches instant cash fund

By Richard Miles

NATWEST will today attempt to lure investors looking for a safe haven after last week's market turbulence by launching an instant-access cash fund as an alternative to deposit accounts.

The Sterling Fund aims to emulate the success of American money market funds, into which private investors have poured trillions of dollars. The fund has been given a triple A credit rating by Standard & Poor's and will be managed by Gartmore, a NatWest subsidiary, and is open to anyone with £50,000 plus to invest.

Gartmore says the yield on the fund will be 6.2 per cent, recalculated on a daily basis. Investors will be able to withdraw their money at any time without penalty.

MMC to order tour operator shake-up

By Marianne Curphey

TOUR operators will be ordered to change the way they sell package holidays when the Monopolies and Mergers Commission publishes its report into anti-competitive behaviour by travel companies.

The MMC report, which will be passed to Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, on November 7, will recommend that travel companies make clear the connections between their integrated airlines, high street shops and tour operating arms so consumers know exactly from which companies they are buying their holidays.

The MMC is likely to stop short of ordering companies to change the outside appearance of high street shops, but may force sales staff to make clear what commission they receive from companies.

The investigation was prompted by complaints from small independent travel companies, who claimed that the might of Thomson and its rival, Airtours, was squeezing them out of the market.

The leisure industry is moving rapidly towards "vertical integration" — when a single company sells its own holidays from its own travel shops. Airtours has its own airline and Going Places shops; Thomson, the market leader with a 30 per cent share, owns an airline and the Lunn Poly high street chain.

Thomson declined to comment, saying the issue was "too sensitive to discuss". Airtours said it would not comment because the MMC "does not want a public debate before publication". When the investigation was launched sources at the company claimed that Thomson was taking a hard line on the issue of commission.

Wayne Sanderson, leisure analyst with Merrill Lynch, said: "Holidays are sold like any other product — sales people tend to push the product that pays the best commission. The general feeling is that consumers enjoy some very good deals because the industry is so competitive and cut-throat. However, the market has not taken into account the fact that new Labour may adopt a new attitude to competition policy and may wish to show its teeth."

☐ Nigel Griffiths, the Consumer Affairs Minister, is due to address the Association of British Travel Agents' annual convention in Tenerife this week. Other speakers include Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor.

Dressing down for British

By Sarah Cunningham

THE UK's claim to be the coolest, most stylish nation in Europe is dealt a blow by a report out today that shows the British to be among the most tight-fisted when it comes to buying clothes.

The average Briton spends £350 a year on clothing, which is £100 less than the clothes-conscious French and £175 less than the stylish Italians.

More surprisingly, British spending per head is also £400 less than in Switzerland, £200 less than in Belgium and £175 less than in Germany. Even Austrians, Danes, the Dutch, Norwegians and Swedes spend more on clothing than the British.

Only the Finns, the Greeks, the Irish, the Portuguese and the Spanish spend less on clothing, the report from Corporate Intelligence on Retailing shows. The Portuguese are the lowest spenders on clothes in Europe, at an average of just £225 per year. British spending on clothing is surprisingly low, given that the UK's retail economy has expanded in recent years, while it has been flat in France and Germany, the report says. The UK's share of the total European clothing market is 11.5 per cent, although it has 15.3 per cent of western Europe's population.

The report says that the discrepancies in spending are mainly because of the amount of disposable income available.

Lloyd's to sue more names

BANKRUPTCY proceedings are to be started against 100 more Lloyd's of London names this week (Adam Jones writes).

Two weeks ago the insurance society sent final warnings to 230 members who had voted to accept its reconstruction and renewal package, which saved Lloyd's from collapsing under the weight of its prior losses, but had failed to pay the resulting bill.

The final warning netted just £200,000 out of the £60 million sought, with many of the 119 names who replied seeking to negotiate. Lloyd's said 100 of the names who did not respond would be served with formal statutory demands for payment under the Insolvency Act, the first step towards bankruptcy.

Another 70 names, who accepted the package without paying their bills, were sent final warnings on Friday. Lloyd's has so far issued about 900 writs against names who refused to accept reconstruction and renewal.

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)					
800	[illegible]	[illegible]		2.99	8.40
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.70	7.05
8,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	[illegible]		7.24	6.99
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.48	6.94
935	Treas 15½% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	14.42	7.01
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.43	7.05
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.24	7.00
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.46	7.02
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.99	6.97
6,950	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.09	6.98
1,780	Conv 10¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.66	6.98
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.62	6.90
9,800	Treas 8% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.75	6.82
109	Treas 8½% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.24	7.00
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.38	6.92
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.16	6.86
12,750	Treas 7% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.94	6.75
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)					
9,000	Treas 7% 2002	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.90	6.86
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.88	6.74
8,600	Treas 8% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.53	6.84
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.63	6.67
1,520	Treas 11½% 2001-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.10	6.67
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.91	5.43
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.19	6.60
6,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.69	6.56
10,373	Treas 8½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.60	6.56
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.14	6.62
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.72	6.68
11,700	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.05	6.56
4,800	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.20	6.60
2,050	Treas 8% 2002-06	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.62	6.77
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.65	6.72
7,397	Treas 8½% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.43	6.58
7,000	Treas 7¼% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.82	6.57
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	119	[illegible]	7.58	6.54
3,450	Treas 8% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.16	6.55
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.44	6.58
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.42	6.58
5,360	Treas 9% 2012	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.36	6.58
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.02	6.44
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.01	6.62
LONGS (over 15 years)					
6,100	Treas 8% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.02	6.56
13,787	Treas 8% 2015	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.98	6.48
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.08	6.52
16,500	Tr 8% 2021	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.75	6.45
UNDATED					
1,909	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.55	...
475	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.72	...
359	Consols 4%	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.80	..
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:				5%	3%
2,150	Treas IL 2½% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.15	3.45
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.14	3.35
1,750	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.11	3.29
2,500	Treas IL 2% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.14	3.28
2,625	Treas IL 2½% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.11	3.22
3,100	Treas IL 2½% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.11	3.21
3,750	Treas IL 2½% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.11	3.20
3,825	Treas IL 2½% 2016	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.11	3.19
3,700	Treas IL 2½% 2020	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.14	3.20
3,050	Treas IL 2½% 2024	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.13	3.18
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.12	3.18

Keep our opinions to yourself.

It's all very well to say share and share alike, but in all honesty wouldn't you prefer to enjoy at leisure your own copy of the Times Educational Supplement? The FE Focus section, in particular, really does deserve much more than a rushed flick through in the staffroom. So for opinions worth taking the time to listen to, buy your own copy, take it home and keep it to yourself.

FE FOCUS

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£1,000 TO BE WON TODAY — TURN TO THE EQUITY PRICES, PAGE 42

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THE TIMES

Problems will arise when the greed turns to fear

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water! After Thursday's plunge, share prices rallied on Friday before suffering another reverse in London, albeit a more gentle one.

In the 1930s, Maynard Keynes had a lot to say about such events. Market prices, he said, were the outcome of an interaction between the opposing emotions of fear and greed. For most of the 1990s, greed has been in the ascendant. After last week, fear may make a comeback.

The idea that such raw emotions can have any relevance to today's hyper-sophisticated markets seems quaint. After all, now information is flashed instantly across myriad computer screens, and financial instruments are hedged, swapped, arbitraged, bundled and unbundled — whatever you like. And the people doing this are a far cry from the bowler-hatted, brolly brigade of yesteryear. They are sharp and quickwitted, more likely to have a PhD in nuclear physics than a silver spoon.

It is easy to take comfort from the thought that what drives financial markets is the higher mathematics of the so-called rocket scientists, rather than the emotions of Keynes's day. But that is just the trouble. What the rocket scientists do is to make the markets more perfect at handling information and dealing with risk. In a hundred little ways they have improved the efficiency of the financial system and thereby provided a service to its users, including the companies that employ us, grant us mortgages or pay our pensions.

Yet for all their smoothing and risk re-allocation, even they cannot overcome the really big problem that besets financial markets — the sheer impossibility of knowing the future. Should we be surprised? This is not so much to do with the peculiarities of financial markets as with the essence of the human condition. And that does not change — rocket science or no.

What is the appropriate level of the stock market today? There are several ways of trying to come up with an answer, but in their different ways what they do is to codify the unknowable. That is why emotions still play their part.

When confidence is high, ultra-bullish interpretations are believed. They are not believed blindly, without reason. On the contrary, all sorts of reasons are adduced. But once confidence has been shattered, these reasons look like so many losing betting tickets torn up after a race.

The most radical reason for believing that the current level of the stock market is sustainable is the argument that the concept of value has next to nothing to do with it. What counts is the sheer weight of funds. In much of the developed West, but especially in the United States, there is a flood of money for the market as people push savings into assets to provide for their old age. Supposedly, this implies a structural shift in the demand for equities, which will drive up share prices, whatever the value indicators say.

I find this argument unpersuasive. The weight of savings is one thing, but the instruments into which they flow are quite another. Surely this lesson should have been learnt from the performance of the Japanese stock market. When the Nikkei stock market index was powering to its peak of nearly 40,000 in 1989, supposedly that too was because of the overwhelming weight of funds.

If you questioned the valuation you were liable to be told that you simply did not understand; Japan was different. Then once the bubble was burst, the market plunged. Interestingly, the "overwhelming weight of funds" had not changed — just the direction of the money and the price which assets commanded in the market. Today, the Nikkei index languishes below the 18,000 mark.

The reason why investors in the United States, many of them unsophisticated, continue to pile money into mutual funds is simply the extraordinary recent performance of such investments. They are operating on the assumption that this performance can be repeated. Indeed, isn't it what shares always do? An annual increase of 10 per cent is more or less guaranteed, but that would amount to a bad year — 15 per cent or 20 per cent is what they are really gunning for, year after year.

But once such investors experience a sharp loss, their attitude may be rather different. That's where fear comes back in.

Still the ultra-bulls are unfazed. Where are investors going to put their money? It's got to go somewhere, they say. The answer is that it can go into bank deposits, where it can sit until the level of the market again makes stocks attractive.

It can also go into bonds. In the stock market crash of 1987, the initial reaction was to sell everything, bonds included. But the second thought was to switch out of equities into bonds. In last week's equity sell-off, in both London and New York, this was the immediate reaction. As shares fell, bonds rose.

This made perfect sense. Although the interest rates on long government bonds look low on a historical comparison, the excellent inflation performance suggests that they have actually been offering good value. Their prospective returns have only looked pedestrian compared to the sparkling gains supposedly to be had from shares.

If you question whether share prices can rise any further, however, it looks like a different matter. Nor do you have to believe the low inflation story to see attractions in bonds. You can get well over 3 per cent above inflation from index-linked gilts — guaranteed by the British Government. That is piffling stuff when greed is in the ascendant, but it will look mightily attractive if fear stalks the street.

Compromise urged on minimum wage

THE proposed minimum wage should be set at £3.85 an hour, says the The Centre for Economic Performance today in its submission to the Low Pay Commission. The recommendation treads a line somewhere between the assertions of both employer organisations and trade unions.

So far the Confederation of British Industry has called for £3.20 as the maximum that could be imposed, saying that anything higher would lead to job losses. The TUC, meanwhile, wants a proposal "somewhat above" £4.

The £3.85 figure was reached by examining the average minimum wage set by wages councils before their abolition in 1993 of £3.07 and applying a nominal growth rate.

1997 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/–	Yld %	P/E
139½	100½	13.90	AFA Systems	115½	...	...	...
153½	131½	19.50	AMCO Corp	135½	...	6.0	7.0
422½	170	42.70	AND Int Pub	195	– 7½	...	...
127½	84½	8.17	Abacus Recruit	125½	– 1½	1.5	...
195	99½	28.00	Access Plus	168½	+ 8½	3.9	19.3
89¾	5¼	3.50	Active Imaging	8½	– 2½	...	...
230	200	30.30	A de Gruchy	205	...	4.5	10.4
11¼	7¼	8.23	African Gold	8	...	...	32.3
117½	72½	43.00	Airtech	94½	– 7	...	...
44½	31¼	13.60	Albemarle & Bd	36	– ½	1.7	13.7
52½	29	5.19	Allzyme	30	– 1½	...	...
111½	73½	2.53	Anglo-Welsh	81½	+ 3	1.6	...
610	455	58.10	Ann St Brewery	605	– 2½	4.2	12.2
1240	1015	7.32	Ann St Cv Pf	1235	– 5	6.5	...
129½	65½	70.90	Antonov	92½	– 7	...	...
148½	99½	20.20	Aortech	117½	– 3	...	...
105	100	5.15	Asam Resources	100		5.2	...
100½	90	9.18	Archer Dedicated	90	...	2.2	42.8
262½	130	46.30	Ask Central	222½	– 2½	0.3	34.4
69½	64½	1.22	Athelney Trust	67½	...	1.9	58.4
109½	66	52.40	Avalon Oil	69	...	...	...
144½	130½	40.60	BATM Adv Comms	130½	– 1	2.4	...
240	14½	12.98	BKG Svs	32½	– 4	...	...
3¼	3½	2.57	Bakery Services	3½	...	...	19.1
59½	25	7.43	Barbican Health	38½	+ 1	...	...
12½	6½	32.80	Barrasford	12¼	...	...	...
3¾	1¼	3.30	Beechcroft	1¾	...	...	6.7
4½	2½	5.80	Beaufort	3	– ¼	2.8	16.6
45½	36½	6.66	Bickerton	43½	– 1	...	17.9
90	60	1.28	Billam	80	– 3	8.3	24.5
76½	43½	3.96	[illegible]	44½	– 1	4.2	23.0
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

1997 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/–	Yld %	P/E
169½	150½	7.41	ITG Group	168½	+ 2	...	...
155½	72½	6.82	Jardinerie Ints	77½	...	...	28.7
138½	82½	5.64	Jasmin	137½	– 1	...	11.5
347	290	24.80	Jennings Bros	335	– 3	2.8	22.0
4¼	3	4.84	J Lewis Hlhrd	3½	...	..	15.9
62½	40½	6.72	Jordec	41½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

China deal adds to Boeing's problems

From Oliver August in New York

BOEING is expected to sign an historic £1.5 billion aircraft deal with China this week against the backdrop of its most severe production problems in more than a decade.

Jiang Zemin, the Chinese President, will order 50 Boeing aircraft on Tuesday, when he begins the first US state visit in 12 years. The order will include 40 737s, five 757s and five 777s.

Zeng Peiyan, Vice-President of the State Planning Commission, said Boeing will be invited to assemble the 737s in Shanghai plants. Airbus and Boeing are both trying to get a foothold in Asia. China is seen as the biggest growth market for aircraft.

Severe production problems at Boeing, which triggered a $1.6 billion (£1 billion) third-quarter charge, have arisen from the inability to cope with "unprecedented" demand. It has suffered a shortage of raw materials, parts and manpower and will not be able to give a definite delivery schedule for the aircraft.

Airbus, the European consortium that includes British Aerospace, hopes to capitalise on Boeing's woes. It has struck an agreement with Chinese manufacturers to build a 100-seat aircraft and hopes China will help to finance a new superjumbo.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6338 (+0.0180)
German mark
2.9062 (+0.0483)
Exchange index
102.1 (+1.6)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
3316.5 (-106.7)
FTSE 100
4970.2 (-300.9)
New York Dow Jones
7715.41 (-131.62)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
17363.74 (-114.68)

Ending of duty-free 'will hit low fares'

By Jon Ashworth

LOW-COST airlines and ferry operators will be forced to pass steep price increases on to customers if duty-free shopping is abolished in Europe in July 1999, according to BAA.

Discount £29 air fares could rise to £44 as a result of the move, spelling difficulties for budget operators such as Debonair and EasyJet.

Sir John Egan, chief executive of BAA, the airports to retail group, accused the Treasury of "humbug" over its response to the planned abolition of duty-free and said the move would hurt business and cost hundreds of jobs.

BAA faces a potential loss of profit of £80 million if duty-free shopping is abolished on travel within Europe. Passengers will continue to enjoy duty-free shopping on international flights outside Europe. BAA is expected to recoup £55 million in increased landing charges, and hopes to continue to offer discounts of 20 per cent on liquor and tobacco, mitigating the losses.

Sir John gave warning that low-cost UK airlines, ferry operators and small airports would be the main losers under the new regime. Air fares would rise by £15 per person. He said: "I am not sure the impact on us will be as serious as on the ferry operators and low-cost carriers. There is a massive subsidy being paid from this into travel costs."

Sir John attacked the UK's "uncompetitive" tax and duty rates, adding: "There is an awful lot of humbug in this, with newspapers buying the Treasury line on distortion of trade, and all that. We're selling to foreigners going home. These are British goods, good for the balance of payments, so why be so precious about it?"

Duty and tax rates vary tremendously across Europe. In Italy, excise rates on spirits are 76 per cent lower than in the UK. Cigarettes are 45 per cent lower. Only Denmark and the Irish Republic have higher excise rates on spirits, while tobacco is universally cheaper. BAA says duty-free should remain until tax and currency rates have been harmonised across Europe.

The European Monetary Committee meets on Wednesday to discuss the issues and is expected to recommend to the European Commission that a formal study be carried out.

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The
Future
of
Marketing?

Ask the
Agency
leading
the
way

TOP 30 AGENCIES – ALL EIGHT CRITERIA

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	29.3%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR CREATIVE ABILITY

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	32.2%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING ABILITY

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	30.9%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR RELEVANT SECTOR EXPERIENCE

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	30.2%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR QUALITY OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	28.9%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR EVALUATION TECHNIQUES

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	28.8%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR FULL SERVICE CAPACITY

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	29.5%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – FOR A NUMBER OF DISCIPLINES

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	30.2%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

TOP 20 AGENCIES – ACCOUNT HANDLING

Rank	Agency	% who placed agency in their top three
1	Brann	29.5%
2	[illegible]	[illegible]

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British at forefront of designer-led revolution

Packaging is crucial to product success says **Sarah Cunningham**

Up for design awards: Channel 5, top left, and Waterstone's, bottom right, both nominated for their corporate identity, Cadbury's for the packaging of its Fuse bar, and the Dyson vacuum cleaner. The winners will be announced tonight

In a scene from *Annie Hall*, Woody Allen wonders aloud why there are so many awards dished out and whether Adolf Hitler would stand a chance in the Best Dictator category. Receiving an award for designing a motor oil container may seem similarly ludicrous, but to those involved it is a very serious business indeed.

Halfords, the car parts and accessories retailer, and its consultancies, Lippa Pearce and Pentagram, were the winners of last year's own-brand packaging Design Effectiveness Award for the abovementioned oil cans. Halfords is up for three awards in this year's DEA competition, whose winners will be announced tonight.

While a customer might think that buying a particular brand of motor oil is determined by what is best, or cheapest, for the car, according to the designers of the award-winning Halfords packaging: "Design has been the single most significant factor in the runaway success of the range."

Zoe Morgan, marketing and buying manager for Halfords, which is part of the Boots Group, said that the design of the containers — whose main claim to fame is that they remove the "glug" from pouring oil by having the handle in a different place — had cost the company £100,000 and involved seven other companies, including consultancies, a manufacturer and a plastic blow-moulding specialist.

It was all worth it, Ms Morgan said, because "we have grown market shares in all areas where we have invested in design and where nothing else has been changed. Over a period of time our reputation for quality and reliability has improved."

Among other companies — and their consultancies — to emerge as finalists this year are Channel 5 and Waterstone's for their corporate identity, Cadbury for the packaging of its new Fuse bar, J Sainsbury for the packaging of its dried fruit, and BhS for its bra packaging.

According to the criteria of the competition, a design counts as effective if the judges believe that it has made the outstanding contribution to the commercial success of a project. The ceremony will be followed by The Design Show, running from tomorrow until Thursday at the Business Design Centre in Islington, north London, which will showcase the work of 70 design groups.

The British commercial design industry, which is believed to be worth £12 billion a year and employs 12,000 people, is flourishing. Just as fashion designers such as John Galliano and Alexander McQueen have made British fashion the most exciting in Europe, so British commercial designers have begun to gain important international recognition. There are even a few star designers around, such as James Dyson of Dyson vacuum cleaner fame, whose company won the Design Effectiveness Grand Prix last year.

British manufacturers now spend £10 billion on product development and design — done both inhouse and through consultancies — while British design consultancies earn nearly £400 million a year abroad.

Ian Rowland-Hill, chief executive of the Design Business Association, believes — not too surprisingly — that there is a lot further to go. He points to the Confederation of British Industry's national manufacturing report, published earlier this year, which showed that only one in ten of Britain's manufacturers is "truly innovative".

He dismisses the suggestion that foreigners are actually better at this sort of stuff. Italians, he says, "have a reputation for flair and style, but they come to our design schools and do not have the number of design companies we have". European car companies, he says, are stuffed with British designers.

Richard Holmes, director of marketing for Boots the Chemists, which has won several Design Effectiveness awards in the past and is a finalist again this year, says that all the company's packaging and retail space is designed by outside consultancies, all of them British. He, along with John McConnell of Pentagram, relies on a roster of about 20 companies. Mr Holmes has been with Boots for only two years, after spending most of his career working in Paris and Milan for Unilever, and he believes that British designers are second to none. "British modern commercial design is at the leading edge," he said. "It is partly about the best attracting the best. It's the same as if a country is good at football, then the youngsters want to play football."

He believes that the increased emphasis on clean, purposeful design, which is noticeable among all the successful retailers, has made a huge difference to Boots: "Boots's success is based on getting really, really close to customers and then getting designers to solve problems."

As to the importance of this week's awards, according to Ms Morgan, it is not that they gain a company public recognition: "They are hugely motivational internally. People get a lot of satisfaction from knowing we are doing good work," she said.

And as for companies that think they can manage without worrying about their design, they are kidding themselves, Mr Holmes said. "Everyone is involved in design whether they do it well or badly. The best companies do it better."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.43	2.26
Austria Sch	21.48	19.82
Belgium Fr	63.19	58.23
Canada $	2.402	2.214
Cyprus Cyp£	0.899	0.828
Denmark Kr	11.67	10.78
Finland Mkk	9.26	8.51
France Fr	10.22	9.44
Germany Dm	3.07	2.83
Greece Dr	483	444
Hong Kong $	13.47	12.27
Iceland	128	108
Ireland Pt	1.17	1.08
Israel Shk	6.13	5.48
Italy Lira	3017	2780
Japan Yen	213.23	195.70
Malta	0.674	0.615
Netherlds Gld	3.470	3.175
New Zealand $	2.78	2.54
Norway Kr	12.29	11.35
Portugal Esc	308.53	286.50
S Africa Rd	8.44	7.49
Spain Pta	255.79	238.00
Sweden Kr	13.27	12.17
Switzerland Fr	2.56	2.34
Turkey Lira	306657	286789
USA $	1.742	1.599

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TELEVISION CHOICE

Earth's fragile existence

Equinox: Sun Storm
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Earth, that insignificant speck in the cosmos, relies on a ball of burning hydrogen, the Sun, for its existence. How fragile is that existence is made plain by this scary examination into the potential devastation caused by the activity of sun storms. Turmoil on the Sun's surface produces magnetic storms which spew out solar material into space. This magnetically charged plasma reaches Earth and causes power surges which can wipe out power systems and satellite communications while playing havoc with our climate. In 1989 much of Quebec suffered a power surge of such magnitude it was left without heat or light for days. We are just beginning to understand the fallouts. One scientist believes that sun storms are as responsible for global warming as greenhouse gases. As the millennium approaches, so the increasing frequency of sun storms is predicted. Be afraid.

Gold
ITV, 9.00pm

Women with attitude wear red stilettos and skirts up to here — the working girls of Kay Mellor's *Band of Gold* are back. Well, two of them, at least. In this follow-up series the core stories revolve around the fates of Rose and Carol, last seen getting off the game and inheriting a fortune respectively. Carol may have been left a lucrative chicken factory but her troubles do not stop there. The vindictive nephew of her benefactor is out to besmirch her name and win back his inheritance. Meanwhile, Rose's attempts to become respectable are proving harder than even she expected. In the first episode she goes for a job as a hotel receptionist but ends up with one that has little to do with customer relations. Interweaved is a tale of murder and assault which will unravel in future episodes. Seedy, salty and sublimely played by Geraldine James and Cathy Tyson.

Picture This
BBC2, 9.30pm

A melancholic look from new director Preeya Lal at the lives of three portrait artists who make their living on London's Leicester Square. Sporting a luxuriant mane of black hair, a mobile phone and a sharp suit, TJ has tears in his eyes when he tells of his wife to whom he proposed after two days and whom he has not seen for six months. Bobby Solo, looking like Willie Nelson without the hair, has tears in his eyes when questioned about his family. Only Sumi, the Japanese girl brought up in Central America, refrains from crying when pressed on the subject of her brother's suicide. Their sad stories are accompanied by the continuous scratchings of pencil on paper and an inordinate amount of close-ups on eyes that can get a little irritating.

Host John Inverdale (BBC1, 10.40pm)

On Side
BBC1, 10.40pm

Proving that a sports programme does not have to appeal only to fanatics is this new magazine with the emphasis on information and entertainment. Chats with stars are interwoven with features and a round-up of the weekend's highlights with previews of forthcoming events, held together by host John Inverdale. The roll-call of names indicates the quality expected: in programme one the guests are the footballing legend Johann Cruyff, the cheeky, charming, champion jockey Frankie Dettori, and deposed Formula One champion Damon Hill. Not a bad cross-section of the sporting greats. A rare scoop is also promised with an interview with the man who has beaten Mike Tyson twice (and not many people can say that), Evander Holyfield.

Frances Lass

RADIO CHOICE

Birdsong
Radio 4, 2.00pm

One of the drama highlights of the week is this dramatisation by Nick Stafford of the bestselling novel by Sebastian Faulks. The radio version is in three parts and stars Toby Stephens and Sophie Ward. The story is really in two strands which become one when the two people concerned meet and fall in love. Stephens plays Stephen Wraysford, who travels to France in 1910 to study textiles but soon falls in love with Isabelle (Ward), the wife of the owner of the factory where Wraysford is based. They start a passionate affair and run away together but . . . well, to say any more would spoil part one, but the overall story, covering love and war and all the elements of human relationships, is well suited to radio

Hayes over Britain
Radio 2, 9.30pm

Outbreaks of religion on *Radio 2* are fairly rare but the network has been committed to World of Faith Week for the past five years and this year there are a host of programmes on this theme throughout the week. I choose this one because it will focus on the abortion laws in Britain, thus demonstrating that World of Faith Week is not some cosy sequence of programmes in which people sing hymns: there is plenty of variety, plenty of issues-related discussion and indeed all the religions of the world are featured. Brian Hayes is one of the best presenters in radio and many will be sorry that his temporary occupancy of *The Magazine* on 5 Live is over, but his evening slot remains intelligent and sharp.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley. Includes **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Dave Pearce **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Sound City '97: Oxford. Steve Lamacq and John Peel present live music from the Zodiac Club and Brookes University. With Embrace, Travis, Ultrasound, Scarfo and Gene **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1.00am** Clive Warren **4.00** Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** David Aaronovitch **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **8.00** Malcolm Laycock **9.00** Big Band Special **9.30** Hayes Over Britain. See Choice **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** John Terrett **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.30** Football Legends **8.00** The Monday Match. Coverage of Leicester v West Ham at Filbert Street. Plus a look at football in Europe **10.00** News Talk **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Jeremy Clark **7.00** Chris Evans **10.00** (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Dene **1.00pm** (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Horne **4.00** Mark Forrest **7.00** (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Carmin Jones **10.00** Janey Lee Grace **2.00am** Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: The Lonely Londoners **7.30** The Vintage Chart Show **8.00** News **8.10** Pause for Thought **8.15** Sport on Trial **9.00** News; News in German (648 only) **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Major Killers **9.30** BBC English: Britain Now **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** Omnibus **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Jazzmatazz **12.00** News **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Seven Days **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Chill Out **3.00** World News; (648 only) News in German **3.05** Sports Roundup **3.15** History Today **3.30** The Ed Stewart Show **4.00** News **4.15** Seven Days **4.30** The World Today; (648 only) News in German **4.45** Britain Today **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Cross Questioned; News in German (648 only) **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Pause for Thought **7.30** Multitrack Hit List **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Heritage **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Outlook **11.30** Multitrack Hit List **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30am** The Way to the West **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Seven Days **1.45** Poems by Post **2.00** Newsday **2.30** On Screen **3.00** News **3.05** World Business Report **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Message to Myself **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe Today **5.00** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Alan Mann. Includes the Trumpet Alarm Call and Breakfast Baroque **9.00** Henry Kelly. Includes the Classic Masterpiece, Hall of Fame Hour and the Classic Recipe **1.00pm** Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones **2.00** Concerto. Schubert (Fantasy for Piano in C) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Newsnight with John Brunning **7.30** Sonata. Mehul (Piano Sonata No 3 in A minor) **8.00** Evening Concert. Mozart (Symphony No 29 in A); Boieldieu (Harp Concerto in C); Leopold Mozart (Trumpet Concerto in D); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in F minor, Appassionata); Haydn (String Quartet in E flat, Joke) **10.00** Jane Markham. Includes at 11.35 Nocturne **2.00am** Concerto (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Mozart (Overture Idomeneo; Piano Concerto No 21 in C, K467); Biber (Serenada in C — The Nightwatchman); Grainger (A Lincolnshire Posy); Gershwin (Cuban Overture); Schubert, compl Newbould (Symphony in D)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Handel (Concerto grosso in D minor, Op 6 No 10); Johann Strauss (son), transcr Schoenberg (Roses from the South); Saint-Saëns (Africa); Haydn (Symphony No 95 in C minor)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Stephanie Hughes. J.C. Bach (Symphony in B flat, Op 6 No 4); Mozart (String Quartet in C, K465, Dissonance); Beethoven (Overture, Fidelio)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Jan Ladislav Dussek
1.00pm News; The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from St John's, Smith Square, London. London Sinfonietta under Elgar Howarth. Schreker (Chamber Symphony); Schoenberg (Chamber Symphony No 1)
2.00 BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales under David Atherton. With Kathryn Stott, piano, and Della Jones, mezzo. Glinka (Overture: Ruslan and Ludmila); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 1 in C); Falla (El Amor Brujo); Rachmaninov (Symphony No 1 in D minor)
4.00 Music Matters, with Ivan Hewett (r)
4.45 Music Machine, with Verity Sharp
5.00 In Tune. To celebrate the dance festival, Dance Umbrella, Humphrey Carpenter talks to a choreographer each day this week about their relationship with music. Today's guest is Mark Baldwin. Music includes Mozart (Sonata for 2 pianos in C major K448) perfromed by Alfred Brendel and Walter Klein
7.30 Performance on 3. London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra under Richard Hickox. Vaughan Williams (The Poisoned Kiss, excerpts), with Neal Davies, bass, Felicity Palmer, contralto, Janice Watson, soprano. Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis; Symphony No 5)
9.25 Postscript: Spirit Machines by Robert Crawford. The first of five specially commissioned poems blending words and sound
9.45 Anniversaries. Today sees the birthdays of two very different but very innovative composers, Paganini was born today in 1782, and Conlon Nancarrow would have been 85 today
10.00 Voices. Iain Burnside introduces a recital given in July by Emma Kirby, soprano, and Anthony Rooley, lute, at the Pittville Pump Room as part of the Cheltenham Festival. Dowland (Sweet Stay a While; Shall I Strive with Wordes to Move; Farewell Unkind Farewell; Fine Knacks for Ladies); Purcell (Crown the Altar, Deck the Shrine, Z321 No 7; Urge Me no More, Z426; Ye Gentle Spirits, Fairy Queen; When First Amintas Sued for a Kiss, Z430); D'India (Da l'Onde del Mio Pianto; Amico, Hai Vinto; Torna il Sereno Zefiro)
10.45 Mixing It, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall
11.30 Composer of the Week: William Walton (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Campbell Burnap
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.45** Woman in the House. The first in a five-part series in which Shirley Williams examines life in Westminster from a female perspective **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week. The *Times* columnist Melvyn Bragg is joined by the artist and sculptor Eduardo Paolozzi and the writer Fintan O'Toole
10.00 (LW) Daily Service
10.00 News; With Great Pleasure. In his 95th year, Lord Soper looks back over his life and introduces extracts from his favourite books, hymns and poems. James Fox and Stephanie Cole read the extracts
10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray (6/12)
11.30 Money Box Live. Personal finance news presented by Vincent Duggleby
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Wildbrain. Lionel Kelleway chairs the first regional heat of the new wildlife quiz in Liverpool Museum **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Birdsong. See Choice
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker sees a new version of *The Merry Widow* staged by the Royal Opera, and an exhibition featuring the theatre designs of Ralph Koltai
4.45 Short Story: A New Beginning, by Richard Madelin. Read by Phillip Voss
5.00 PM, with Clare English and Chris Lowe **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 News Quiz. The topical quiz chaired by Simon Hoggart. With regular panellists Francis Wheen and the *Times* columnist Alan Coren (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Marked for Place, by Ronan Bennett. The story of a Northern Irish prisoner in an English jail. With Michael Melia and David Herlihy (r)
9.15 Colour Radio: Black and White. The final programme in the series exploring colour. With Fenella Fielding and Michael Fenton-Stevens (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Laughter in the Dark, by Vladimir Nabokov, abridged by Neville Teller and read by David Horovitch (1/10)
11.00 (LW) Education Matters. A new series
11.00 (FM) Comparing Notes with Brian Kay. Brian Kay considers the current state of ballet in Britain with the composer Brian Elias and the conductor Barry Wordsworth (r)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
11.30 (FM) Ballylenon. The comedy drama series by Christopher Fitz-Simon (r)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: The Haunting of Hill House, by Shirley Jackson (4/8) (r)
12.48 (LW) Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by** Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Ja Gregory and John McNamara.

Two fat ladies good, one fat lady not so good

Matthew Bond

Unfortunately, **Sex and Chocolate** (BBC1) was not the first BBC production to have linked those two pleasures in the past week. As Michael Maloney gamely tried to tempt Dawn French away from her Parisian chocolate ice-cream — "*did you know that chocolate releases the same chemical reaction in the brain as sex?*" — I knew I'd heard virtually the same line only a few days before. Got it. It was Clarissa Dickson Wright in — oh dear — *Two Fat Ladies*.

Suddenly everything fell uncomfortably into place. *Sex and Chocolate — or Sex and Milk Chocolate with a High Milk Content*, as the repeat must now be called — wasn't just a chick's flick. It was a fat chick's flick. Bad news if you were male and/or halfway slim.

Believe me, being sexist and sizeist by paragraph two does not come easily, but as far as I can see there's no alternative. Did a chap believe that a successful male fashion photographer, bumping into his first girlfriend, would not be deterred by the fact she was now the size of a small primary school? No, a chap did not.

I know, I know. I'm completely missing the point. This was romantic fantasy, where the whole point was that Bev Bodger (subtle stuff, huh?) would still be wooed, whisked off to Paris and become the crowning moment in a Jasper Conran fashion show — despite her size. But if I'd missed the point, so had Tony Grounds, its writer, whose chocolatey confection was soured by over-elaboration.

That's because *Sex and Chocolate* didn't rest on one improbability, but two. Bev's pursuit by Billy Gale (Maloney), the world-famous photographer, was actually the second. The first was that she enjoyed a preposterously happy marriage to Ian Bodger (Phil Daniels returning to our screens after a break of at least five minutes), a ska-loving, semi-reformed skinhead who was both dream husband and perfect father.

One towering improbability was fine, two I could cope with as long as we stayed in the realm of fantasy. But please, after a moderately enjoyable 80 minutes, don't ask me to believe that these comic fantasies are real people with real emotions. The sight of poor Daniels, pointlessy emoting his socks off, was too much to bear and certainly proof that when it comes to romantic fantasy (and please don't let it come too often) you cannot have your cake and eat it. Not even a chocolate one.

The best drama of the weekend came early, on Friday in fact, when the same recipe of leisurely pace and a familiar-looking cast was used to much better effect in **An Unsuitable Job for a Woman** (ITV). The gentle pace, remarkable in a prime-time ITV drama, turned out to be crucial, as we became accustomed to the sight of Helen Baxendale in yet another starring role.

Baxendale is a young actress who has worked so much in such a short time that it is sometimes difficult to see beyond the familiar attributes (the hair, the nose, the voice that still carries a hint of the truculent teenager) and find the character she is playing. For the first half-hour, I had all sorts of problems believing she was Cordelia Gray, the young woman who inherits a private detective agency when her boss, a former policeman, commits suicide after being told he had terminal cancer. For the second half-hour, we weren't quite at the "I couldn't imagine she'd ever played anyone else" stage, but we were getting there.

That was partly because of her performance (more thoughtful, lots of pauses, less flashing of eyes) and partly because of the quality of what was going on around her. Rosemary Leach, in particular, was outstanding as the emotionally bottled-up spinster who found the unfortunate young man hanging in the summer house. Oh yes, the clichés of the genre are there, but William Humble, who has adapted the P.D. James novel into three parts, and Ben Bolt, the director, have so far tiptoed very skilfully around them. Part two cannot come quickly enough.

If the familiar opening titles are still a clue of what lies ahead, all those theatre tickets suggest that **Omnibus** (BBC1) is still an arts programme. In which case what was a profile of Katharine Graham, owner of *The Washington Post*, doing there last night, apart from serving as a very long trailer for *All the President's Men*?

Although I suspect Ursula Macfarlane's film, *Citizen Kay*, contained few surprises for those familiar with Graham's riches to riches story, it will surely never be told by a more authoritative cast. From Graham herself, to Henry Kissinger, to the heroes of the Watergate story — Ben Bradlee, Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein — the story was told first-hand by everyone, barring the many Presidents she has known. Post-Watergate, the narrative got a bit vague and confused. So they ran the credits and showed the film instead.

No doubting the provenance, however, of **Arthouse**, Channel 4's new arts documentary series. Not only was it about pictures, they were actually by an artist we had all heard of even if we can't always agree about how he is pronounced: Van Gogh. The problem is that not all Van Goghs are his — some of them could be Schuffenecker's. That was the basic contention put forward by Geraldine Norman, a writer, saleroom expert and art historian.

Norman is not a natural broadcaster (the lack of gloss eventually proved a plus rather than a minus) and some messy captioning made her task no easier, but she turned the complex story of the Van Gogh fakes into riveting television. If this is a sign of things to come, Channel 4 could have something rather special on its hands.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (68447)
7.00 **BBC Breakfast News** (T) (63805)
9.00 **Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (T) (3356992)
9.25 **Style Challenge** (3375027)
9.50 **Kilroy** (T) (1101599)
10.30 **Change That** (8595089)
10.55 **The Really Useful Show** (T) (1657805)
11.35 **Real Rooms** New series. Transforming a *neglected bedroom* (3217553)
12.00 **News** (T) and weather (8659805)
12.05pm **Call My Bluff** (7322282)
12.35 **Going for a Song** Antiques quiz (5004843)
1.00 **News** (T) and weather (66992)
1.30 **Regional News** and weather (73146331)
1.40 **The Weather Show** (28880094)
1.45 **Neighbours** (T) (71862843)
2.10 **Quincy** (r) (8894089)
3.00 **World on a Plate** New series. Loyd Grossman investigates the history of food worldwide, beginning in Jordan and Monte Carlo (T) (9843)
3.30 **Playdays** (8515669) **3.50** Enchanted Lands (9006398) **4.00** Roald Dahl's Revolting Recipes (8992263) **4.15** Noah's Island (6784640) **4.40** Goosebumps (3417114) **5.00** Newsround (T) (2684973) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (9090398)
5.35 **Neighbours** (r) (T) (803599)
6.00 **News** (T) and weather (824)
6.30 **Regional News** (176)
7.00 **This is Your Life** (T) (1824)
7.30 **Here and Now** Chris Choi investigates the work of liquidators (T) (260)
8.00 **EastEnders** The tension between Sarah and Joe gets worse (T) (7244)
8.30 **Only Fools and Horses** *Classic* comedy, starring David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst (r) (T) (6379)
9.00 **News** (T) and weather (8331)
9.30 **Bloomin' Marvellous** Jack and Liz *decide to make the most of their last* child-free days together. Last in series (T) (39263)
10.00 **Panorama: Gay Times** Examining the change in attitudes within the political parties towards same sex relationships (T) (320379)
10.40 **On Side** New sport-based show with John Inverdale talking to the footballer Johann Cruyff, the jockey Frankie Dettori, the boxer Evander Holyfield and Formula One's Damon Hill (122824)
11.30 **Film '97 with Barry Norman** *Reviews of thriller LA Confidential, with Kim Basinger and Kevin Spacey; and Smilla's Feeling For Snow, starring Julia Ormond and Gabriel Byrne. Plus: a report on Northern Ireland's thriving film and television industry* (56027) **WALES: 11.30** FAW Invitation Cup: Cardiff City v Wrexham (591350) **12.10am** Film '97 with Barry Norman (4911480) **12.40** FILM: Bad Man's River (3956751) **2.10** News
12.00 **Bad Man's River** (1972) Tongue-in-cheek western following the adventures of a gang of outlaws. Lee Van Cleef, James Mason and Gina Lollobrigida star. Directed by Gene Martin (63935)
1.30am **Weather** (1484312)

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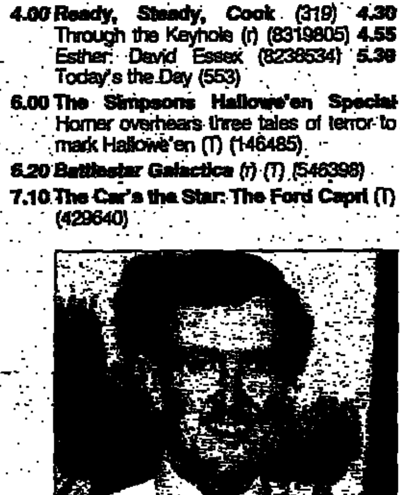
BBC2

6.00am Education: Developing Language (12756) **6.30** Learning to Learn (34805)
7.00 **See Hear Breakfast News** (T) (9189640)
7.15 **Teletubbies** (r) (6492060) **7.40** Smurfs' Adventures (r) (4876027) **8.05** Blue Peter (r) (T) (7538027) **8.30** Music-a-Grams (r) (7438527) **8.45** Harry and the Hendersons (r) (T) (9198447)
9.10 **Spanish Globo** (3146244) **9.15** Clementine (3001553) **9.30** Writing and Pictures (8100553) **9.45** Storytime (8105008) **10.00** Teletubbies (r) (58485) **10.30** Words and Pictures (6241621) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (6246176) **11.00** Spywatch (5858244) **11.20** Zig Zag (6827447) **11.40** Landmarks (9823534) **12.00** Heading South (5332008) **12.20** Showcase (8651263)
12.30 **Working Lunch** (57669)
1.00 **Greedysaurus Gang** (r) (55597718) **1.05** Hairy Jeremy (r) (55596089)
1.10 **The Art and Antiques Hour** New series. (7118331) **2.10** Going, Going, Gone (74044060) **2.35** Talent 2000 (3212805) **2.40** News (3219718)
2.45 **Westminster** Coverage of Chancellor Gordon Brown's statement on the single currency (T) (1433843)
4.00 **Ready, Steady, Cook** (319) **4.30** Through the Keyhole (r) (8319805) **4.55** Esther: David Essex (8238534) **5.30** Today's the Day (553)
6.00 **The Simpsons Hallowe'en Special** Homer overhears three tales of terror to mark Hallowe'en (T) (146485)
6.20 **Battlestar Galactica** (r) (T) (546398)
7.10 **The Car's the Star: The Ford Capri** (T) (429640)

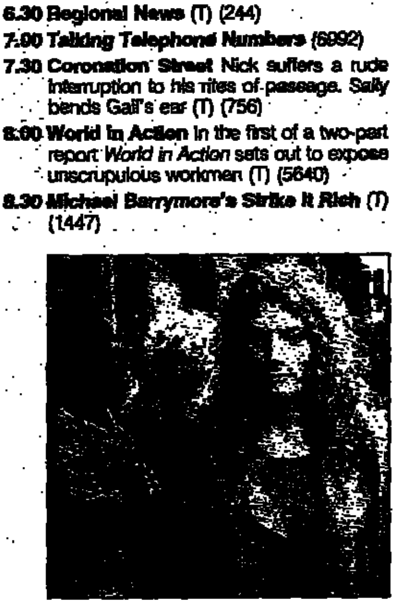


Leader Neil MacGregor (7.30pm)

7.30 **Making Masterpieces** Neil MacGregor leads a team from the National Gallery to produce an altarpiece, following instructions set down by the 14th-century Florentine artist Cennino Cennini (T) (602)
8.00 **Decisive Weapons: The Bell Huey Helicopter: Vietnam War Horse** (r) (T) (8114)
8.30 **Two Fat Ladies** prepare a slap-up breakfast (T) (7621)
9.00 **The Mrs Merton Show** (r) (T)
9.30 **Picture This** Profile of portrait painters in London's Leicester Square. Last in series (T) (37805)
10.00 **Never Mind the Buzzcocks** Last in series (21756)
10.30 **Newsnight** (T) (380911) **11.15** Oldie TV. New series (622669) **11.55** Weather (145350) **12.00** Midnight Hour (31454)
12.30am **Learning Zone: The Making of Simon Callow** (1484954) **12.45** Talent 2000 (4389848) **2.00** Schools: Special Needs (70225) **4.00** Sueños World Spanish (23119) **5.00** Skills for Work (74041)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4500282)
9.25 **Supermarket Sweep** (T) (3351447)
9.55 **Regional News** (5985242)
10.00 **The Time, the Place** (45911)
10.30 **This Morning** (T) (77133089)
12.20pm **Regional News** (8655089)
12.30 **News** (T) and weather (5090840)
12.55 **High Road** (5075331) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (76442718)
1.50 **The Seekers** (1955) Jack Hawkins stars as a naval officer captured by natives in New Zealand when he accidentally walks over a sacred burial ground. Directed by Ken Annakin (9115391)
3.20 **News** (T) (4496379)
3.25 **Regional News** (4488350)
3.30 **Tots TV** (8502911) **3.40** The Slow Norris (9095282) **3.50** Wolves, Witches and Giants (8513027) **4.05** Sooty and Co (6746244) **4.25** Are You Afraid of the Dark? Special (6755992) **4.50** How 2 (3408466)
5.10 **WALES: The House** (r) (T) (3474911)
5.10 **We Are Seven** (3474911)
5.40 **News** (T) and weather (285447)
6.00 **Home and Away** (971224)
6.25 **Regional Weather** (938553)
6.30 **Regional News** (T) (244)
7.00 **Talking Telephone Numbers** (6992)
7.30 **Coronation Street** Nick suffers a rude interruption to his rites of passage. Sally bends Gail's ear (T) (756)
8.00 **World in Action** In the first of a two-part report *World in Action* sets out to expose unscrupulous workmen (T) (5640)
8.30 **Michael Barrymore's Strike It Rich** (T) (1447)



On the street with James (9.00pm)

9.00 **Gold: She's Back** New gritty drama series featuring the *Band of Gold* team. Rose, now working with prostitutes, finds herself involved with hustler Paula, the prime suspect in a murder case. With Geraldine James and Cathy Tyson (T) (1599)
10.00 **News** (T) and weather (18282)
10.30 **Regional News** (788669)
10.40 **Nash Bridges** Nash finds himself stuck with an 11-year-old delinquent, who is a link to a drug baron (T) (855640)
11.40 **Highlander** When an innocent bystander *is killed in a swordfight, MacLeod*, haunted by the man's death, tries to find *out more about him* (T) (798176)
12.40am **Football Extra** (9512119)
1.40 **War of the Worlds** (r) (6829157)
2.30 **Rockmania** (r) (80480)
3.30 **God's Gift** (r) (6157003)
4.20 **Breakaways** (r) (T) (97807138)
4.35 **World in Action** (r) (T) (56707751)
5.00 **Coronation Street** (r) (T) (31732)
5.30 **News** (31157)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 **A Country Practice** (5075331)
1.50 **Blue Heelers** (9587992)
2.50-3.20 **High Road** (9835398)
5.10-5.40 **Shortland Street** (3474911)
6.25-7.00 **Central News** (416718)
11.40 **Charlie Grace** (956440)
12.35am **Football Extra** (1452935)
1.40 **Late and Loud** (9949867)
2.45 **Film: The Brides of Dracula** (1499867)
4.10 **The Making of Speed 2: Cruise Control** (93148393)
4.35 **Central Jobfinder '97** (29110111)
4.50 **Eastern Mix** (56719596)
5.20 **Asian Eye** (7695206)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 **Illuminations** (8655089)
12.55 **Home and Away** (5075331)
1.25 **High Road** (46163843)
1.55 **Murder, She Wrote** (9595911)
2.50-3.20 **Gardeners' Diary** (9835398)
5.10-5.40 **Home and Away** (3474911)
6.00-7.00 **Westcountry Live** (52114)
10.30 **Westcountry News** (762621)
10.45 **Nash Bridges** (831060)
11.40 **Prisoner: Cell Block H** (798176)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 **Shortland Street** (5075331)
1.50 **Countdown to Christmas** (8988195)
2.25-3.20 **Blue Heelers** (8898992)
5.10-5.40 **Home and Away** (3474911)
6.00 **Meridian Tonight** (992)
6.30-7.00 **A Weekend's Work** (244)
10.30 **Meridian News and Weather** (762621)
10.45 **Nash Bridges** (831060)
11.40 **Talking About It** (798176)
5.00am **Freescreen** (31732)

ANGLIA

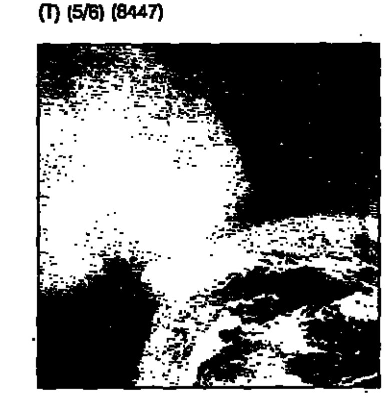
As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 **A Country Practice** (5075331)
1.50 **Homemaker** (8988195)
2.25-3.20 **Blue Heelers** (8898992)
5.10-5.40 **Shortland Street** (3474911)
6.25-7.00 **Anglia News** (416718)
10.30 **Anglia News and Weather** (762621)
10.45 **Is That It?** (785331)
11.15 **Nash Bridges** (185553)
12.10am **Fair Cops** (4913848)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Bigger Breakfast (89843) **9.00 The Pink Panther** (7646992) **9.20 Eerie Indiana** (3350718) **9.50 The Crystal Maze** (7404060) **10.50 Happy Days** (8897447) **11.20 The Bigger Breakfast** (7263282) **11.30 The Pulse** (2534) **12.00 Right to Reply** (15195) **12.30pm Montel Williams** (42737) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (32910244) **1.15 Miffi** (32948027) **1.30 The Liners** (39992) **2.30 Wild Tales from National Geographic** (31114) **3.30 Collector's Lot** (350) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (485) **4.30 The Music School** (669) **5.00 5 Pump** (4926621) **5.15 Ffeil** (2696718) **5.30 Countdown** (621) **6.00 Newyddion** (492176) **6.10 Heno** (540114) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (140621) **7.25 Taro Naw** (186485) **8.00 Eric** (3282) **8.30 Newyddion** (9089) **9.00 Cutting Edge** (1911) **10.00 Sgorio** (1398) **11.00 The Real Holiday Show** (6114) **11.30 The American Football Big Match** (898350) **12.45am-1.45 Arthouse** (428732)

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (84485)
7.00 **The Bigger Breakfast** includes **9.00** Pink Panther; **9.20** Eerie Indiana; **9.50** Crystal Maze (r); **10.50** Happy Days (r) (8737992)
11.30 **The Pulse** *Asthma* (r) (T) (2534)
12.00 **Sesame Street** (15195)
12.30pm **Light Lunch** (8132379)
1.35 **Exposed** Weddings (73152992)
1.50 **The Kidnappers** (1953, b/w) with *Duncan Macrae, Jean Anderson and* Adrienne Corri. Two boys, when denied a *dog, kidnap a baby. Directed by Philip* Leacock (T) (92003263)
3.30 **Collector's Lot** With Antony Worrall-Thompson (T) (350) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (485) **4.30** Countdown (T) (8304973) **4.55** Montel Williams: Homeless Teens (T) (8223602) **5.30** Pet Rescue (r) (T) (621)
6.00 **Home Improvement** Tim walks in on his *sister-in-law while she is taking a shower* (T) (534)
6.30 **Hollyoaks** Spike takes Ruth hostage in the office (T) (114)
7.00 **Channel 4 News** (T) (184992)
7.50 **Political Slot** The first of five nightly programmes in which MPs offer their opinions on topical issues (849640)
8.00 **Wild Tales from National Geographic: Thorn Tree Country** Examining the role of the acacia tree in the African woodland (T) (5/6) (8447)



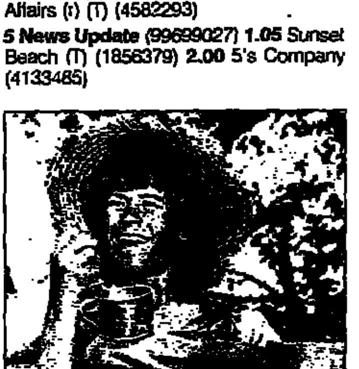
A threat to our existence (9.00pm)

9.00 **Equinox: Sun Storm** Magnetic storms on the Sun can cause havoc on Earth. Scientists are warning of a sharp increase in these storms by the year 2000 (T) (1911)
10.00 **NYPD Blue: Emission Impossible** Simone and Sipowicz investigate multiple homicide at a nightclub; Abby asks Medavoy for help (T) (953621)
10.55 **Seven Sins: Lust** Paul Burston presents a look at the lifestyle in South Beach, Florida, where gay men live a life of hedonism (6/7) (T) (286350)
11.25 **The American Football Big Match** (561534)
12.45am **Trans World Sport** (r) (1959157)
1.50 **The Young Mr Pitt** (1942, b/w) starring *Robert Donat and Robert Morley.* A faithful biopic of Britain's youngest Prime *Minister. Directed by Carol Reed* (39076683)
3.55 **It's Not Cricket** (1948, b/w) Comedy with Basil Radford and Naunton Wayne as army officers cashiered for letting a top Nazi escape. Back in civvy street they start a detective agency and run into their old adversary again. Directed by Alfred Roome and Roy Rich (1136515)
5.15 **In Conversation With** Henry Blofeld, cricket commentator (r) (T) (2507848)
5.50 **Terrytoons** (1490732)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (2425447)
7.30 **Milkshake** (7448244) **7.35** USA High (r) (3566486) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (8829843)
8.30 **WideWorld** *A look at the work of Piet* Mondrian (8828114)
9.00 **Espresso** (5091195) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (6747718) **10.30** Animal Calypso: Bats of Tamana (r) (T) (8808350)
11.00 **Leeza** (5117373) **11.50** Double Espresso (44723466) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8899602) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (4582293)
1.00 **5 News Update** (99699027) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (1856379) **2.00** 5's Company (4133485)



Jeff East in title role (3.30pm)

3.30 **Huckleberry Finn** (1974) Musical version of Mark Twain's classic with Huck and Jim singing and dancing their way along the Mississippi River. With Jeff East and Paul Winfield. Directed by J. Lee Thompson (2429263)
5.30 **Whittle** (T) (8802466)
6.00 **100 Per Cent** (8809379)
6.30 **Family Affairs** Pete gives Roy a change of image (T) (8883331)
7.00 **Exclusive** *Naina Parmar reports from* Los Angeles on the trend for today's stars to buy the biographical rights of the stars from yesteryear (6640621)
7.30 **Song of the Seal: Way of the Walrus** The future of the walrus in the seas of the Arctic (T) (8812843)
8.00 **Period Rooms** *The team's challenge for* Hallowe'en week is to decorate a *bedroom from the Gothic period, without* scaring the neighbours (T) (6666669)
8.30 **5 News** (T) (6645176)
9.00 **The Sweeney: The Golden Fleece** Detective Chief Inspector Haskins comes under the scrutiny of Internal Affairs when two Australian conmen try to frame him (3793398)
10.00 **Wing and a Prayer: The Greater Good** *Chris has to put his prejudice aside to* defend a transsexual (T) (3796485)
11.00 **The Jack Docherty Show** (5243602)
11.45 **Prisoner: Cell Block H** (8445466)
12.45am **Live and Dangerous** (24914003)
3.45 **Asian Football Show** (2546206)
4.35 **The Streets of San Francisco: Poisoned Snow** Personal tragedy prompts a narcotics officer to seek revenge (T) (8344312)
5.30 **100 Per Cent** (r) (5049732)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (101553) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (36718) **10.00** Another World (20114) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (46850) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (83008) **1.00pm** Geraldo (98756) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (99758) **3.00** Jenny Jones (92282) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (88089) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5669) **6.00** The Live 6 Show (1331) **6.30** Married... with Children (5911) **7.00** The Simpsons (6398) **7.30** M*A*S*H (1195) **8.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (31669) **9.00** Poltergeist: The Legacy (11805) **10.00** Sliders (14992) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (21843) **12.00** Late Show (75190) **1.00am** Long Play (1094848)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Sabrina ([illegible]) (45244) **8.00** The Borrowers (1973) (12719843) **9.35** Colour Me Perfect (1996) (40887089) **11.10** Hercules and the Circle of Fire (1994) (55821982) **12.45pm** Fanny (1961) (75829689) **3.00** Colour Me Perfect (1996) (13898) **5.00** Little Bigfoot II: The Journey Home (1996) (43992) **7.00** Hercules and the Circle of Fire (1994) (78008) **8.30** Movie Show (9821) **9.00** Dangerous Minds (1995) ([illegible]) **10.45** Shadow of Obsession (1994) (235331) **12.15am** Just Cause (1995) (986138) **2.00** September (1996) (6572521) **3.25** Higher Learning (1995) (16367652)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Velvet Touch (1948) (76114) **8.00** Time Warriors: The Human Pets (1995) ([illegible]) **10.00** My Uncle: The Alien (1996) (86331) **12.00** The Left-Handed Gun (1958) (91973) **2.00pm** Divorce, American Style (1967) (36714) **4.00** The Christmas Coal Mine Miracle (1977) (1843) **6.00** Semi-Precious (1986) (45737) **7.30** [illegible] (4805) **8.00** Acts of Contrition (1997) (28195) **10.00** Under Siege 2: Dark Territory (1995) ([illegible]) **11.40** Fast Company (1995) ([illegible]) **1.30am** Sharon's Secret (1995) (315577) **2.45** Generation X (1996) (637157) **4.20** The Left-Handed Gun (1958) (759428)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Blonde Venus (1932) (4163398) **6.00** Big (1988) (1157621) **8.00** Running Scared (1986) (1169466) **10.00** Blind Fury (1989) (1874973) **11.30** One False Move (1992) (3276114) **1.20am** Without Reservations (1946) (7619354) **3.10** Cat People (1942) (14567312) **4.20** Close

TNT

9.00pm Buddy Buddy (1981) (73278892) **11.00** A Life in the Theatre (1993) (94370485) **12.30am** Light in the Piazza (1962) (94348886) **2.30** Buddy Buddy (1981) (57739683) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Spanish Primera Liga (48263) **9.00** Racing News (54621) **9.30** Aerobics (90911) **10.00** Football Special (93331) **11.30** Futbol Mundial (38840) **12.00** Aerobics (74485) **12.30pm** Watersports World (97553) **1.30** Football Special (50350) **3.00** *Basketball: London v Leicester* (33447) **5.00** Watersports World (8553) **6.00** Sports Centre (1176) **6.30** Football League Review (5756) **7.00** Leicester City v West Ham United — Live (1278379) **10.30** *Sports Centre* (51534) **11.00** Watersports World (89027) **12.00** Football (42886) **2.00am** Sports Centre (85119) **2.30** Football League Review (97854) **3.00** Sports Centre (11008)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics Oz Style (2176843) **7.30** Windsurfing (2155350) **8.00** Racing News (9428534) **8.30** Super Dragsters (9427805) **9.00** Golf: Las Vegas Invitational (1224824) **11.00** Sports Unlimited (2171398) **12.00** Football League Review (2615114) **1.00pm** Darts: PDC Team Cup (1549843) **3.30** Golf: Las Vegas Invitational (9804534) **5.30** Football League Review (7952027) **6.00** Windsurfing (7942640) **6.30** V-Max (7933892) **7.00** Sports Centre (5734378) **7.30** World Motor Sport (7242927) **10.30** V-Max (9445398) **11.00** Football League Review (2448973) **11.30** Muscle Night (8075379) **12.30am** Baseball (8913598) **2.30** *Sports Centre* (8320515) **3.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Golf: Oki Pro-Am (23373889) **2.00** NFL: Pittsburgh v Jacksonville (27820008) **5.30** Super Dragsters (97807911) **6.00** *Motorcycling: Manx Grand Prix* (35523927) **7.00** Fish TV (7321843) **8.00** Baseball (73268379) **10.00** Big League Classics (96135195) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Sailing (57282) **8.00** Skiing: Women's World Cup (40244) **9.00** Football: US Major League Cup Final (15718) **11.00** Truck Racing (33602) **12.00** Speedworld Magazine (18805) **2.00pm** Tennis: Paris Open — Live (1506485) **10.00** Eurogoals (72176) **11.30** Billiards: *Team Cup* (42195) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Worzel Gummidge (8694553) **7.35** Neighbours (8589992) **8.00** Crossroads (9321640) **8.25** EastEnders (3303379) **9.00** The Bill (1875485) **9.30** Howard's Way (4863089) **10.00** Bless This House (9360263) **10.30** The Sullivans (1871669) **11.00** Kinsey (6394176) **12.00** Crossroads (57872911) **12.25pm** Neighbours (57882398) **12.55** EastEnders (1471911) **1.30** Hi-De-Hi (9846718) **2.10** Dad's Army (2960195) **2.50** Are You Being Served? (4808973) **3.30** *The Bill* (9965244) **4.00** Casualty (62292447) **5.05** EastEnders (9269737) **5.40** Bob's Full House (7589114) **6.25** That's Showbusiness (7418669) **7.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (7683466) **7.45** Rosie (5638379) **8.20** Dad's Army (1308824) **9.00** The Bill (1087973) **9.30** Middlemarch (38517350) **10.40** Yes, Minister (5306466) **11.20** The New Statesman (9789350) **11.55** Spitting Image (7646263) **12.25am** *Between the Lines* (2728596) **1.20** Miami Vice (3035206) **2.10** Shopping (99383193)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am E! Uncut (7652196) **6.30** E! FYE (3415843) **7.00** Coronation St (5675602) **7.30** Families (5894737) **8.00** Surprise Surprise (8522973) **9.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (7851843) **10.00** Fortune Hunter (5883621) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (5803485) **12.00** Coronation St (4949534) **12.30pm** Families (2087621) **1.00** Blind Date (2092176) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3407824) **3.00** The Grumbleweeds Radio Show (5288589) **3.30** A Fine Romance (5253114) **4.00** Fortune Hunter (3269027) **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (5242621) **6.00** Families (5752898) **6.30** Coronation St (5733350) **7.00** Blind Date (1468840) **8.00** Fortune Hunter (1444060) **9.00** Coronation St (3258911) **9.30** The Comedians (2017485) **10.00** Hawaii Five-O (1467911) **11.00** Close

Robert Loggia and Tom Hanks in *Big* (Movies Gold, 6pm)

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo (30114) **6.30** Lamb Chop (44843) **7.00** Aladdin: The Series (42973) **7.30** Quack Pack (61008) **8.00** Dinosaurs (99534) **9.00** Aladdin: The Series (16534) **10.00** Boy Meets World (35195) **10.30** The Wonder Years (16485) **11.00** Brotherly Love (68263) **11.30** New Doug (69952) **12.00** Timon and Pumbaa (78927) **12.30pm** Winnie the Pooh (34379) **1.00** Sesame Street (22534) **2.00** Amazing Animals (8718) **2.30** The Little Mermaid (1756) **3.00** Tale Spin (8553) **3.30** Goof Troop (3973) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (2008) **4.30** Aladdin: The Series (1992) **5.00** Gargoyles (7918) **5.30** Dinosaurs (2244) **6.00** Blossom (2485) **6.30** Boy Meets World (3737) **7.00** Home Improvement (5794) **7.30** Wonder Years (2621) **8.00** FILM: Who Framed Roger Rabbit (1988) (14604602) **9.50** Teacher of the Year Awards 1997 ([illegible]) **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Dolly and His Friends ([illegible]) **6.30** Billy the Cat ([illegible]) **7.00** Pinocchio (6608660) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (6682176) **8.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs (1678824) **8.30** Masked Rider (1677195) **9.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (2681027) **11.00** Sweet Valley High (6891824) **12.00** Ace Ventura (1871911) **12.30pm** Casper (7241927) **1.00** The Tick (6885840) **1.30** Iron Man (8891466) **2.00** Fantastic Four (4360263) **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo (7946911) **3.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs (4389398) **3.30** Masked Rider (7958756) **4.00** Ace Ventura (7937263) **4.30** Casper (7833447) **5.00** The Tick (4364843) **5.30** X Men (7957027) **6.00** Spiderman (7947640) **6.30** Sweet Valley High (7938892) **7.00** Close

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After (51260) **6.30** Bobby's World (24089) **7.00** Spirou (55447) **7.30** Dennis the Menace (67282) **8.00** Batman (28494) **8.30** Bots Master (78945) **9.00** Art Attack (90447) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (95737) **10.00** Gravedale High (48669) **10.30** Flash Gordon (69331) **11.00** Creepy Crawlers (71737) **11.30** Gigantor (72466) **12.00** Gravedale High (78861) **12.30pm** Bots Master (36553) **1.00** Batman (54718) **1.30** Eek the Cat (39824) **2.00** Creepy Crawlers (2992) **2.30** Flash Gordon (4602) **3.00** Sonic (1027) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (8447) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (6282) **4.30** Jet Attack (4466) **5.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from **5.00am to 9.00pm**, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles* (98114) **6.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (10263) **7.00** Bruno the Kid (41821) **7.30** Bruno the Kid (60756) **8.00** Hey Arnold! (62840) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (61911) **9.00** Rugrats (52263) **9.30** *Rugrats* (98553) **10.00** Doug (34843) **10.30** Doug (58447) **11.00** Aaahh! Real Monsters (33553) **11.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (34282) **12.00** Rocko (72027) **12.30pm** Rocko (50589) **1.00** Clarissa Explains it All (40992) **1.30** Clarissa Explains it All (91640) **2.00** Moesha (1008) **2.30** Moesha (8089) **3.00** Kenan and Kel (3843) **3.30** Kenan and Kel (3534) **4.00** Rugrats (2669) **4.30** Rugrats (1553) **5.00** Sister Sister (5060) **5.30** Sister Sister (2805) **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch (9718) **6.30** Sabrina the Teenage Witch (3398) **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00pm Swan's Crossing (1857089) **12.30** *Ready or Not* (4652973) **1.00** Madison (6383060) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (4651244) **2.00** Saved by the Bell (9930398) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (9888195) **3.00** No Naked Flames (9919805) **3.30** Ready or Not (9983640) **4.00** *Saved by the Bell* (9979447) **4.30** USA High (9968331) **5.00** Hangtime (9914350) **5.30** Sweet Valley High (9982911) **6.00** Rush (4856805) **6.15** On the Make (4846060) **6.30** Madison (9970176) **7.00** *Hangtime* (9934114) **7.30** USA High (9969060) **8.00** Close

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (9222718) **9.00** Crime Story (9235282) **10.00** Tour of Duty (9245669) **11.00** FILM: Rambo III (1988) (8764466) **1.00am** *Crime Story* (8309848) **2.00** Tour of Duty (3812157) **3.00** FILM: Rambo III (1988) (9512312) **5.00** The A-Team (5716916)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (5824) **7.30** *Roseanne* (2282) **8.00** *Ellen* (1244) **8.30** Cybill (3809) **9.00** Cheers (20089) **9.30** Taxi (89805) **10.00** Frasier (73766) **10.30** Squawkietalkie (59176) **11.00** In Bed with McDinner II (465331) **11.25** Robin (358502) **11.30** Ellen (30027) **12.00** Grace Under Fire (89732) **12.30am** Nightstand (73683) **1.00** Entertainment UK (39409) **1.30** Taxi (78866) **2.00** In Bed with McDinner II (1093596) **2.25** Robin (7343645) **2.30** The Odd Couple (95596) **3.00** Frasier (19645) **3.30** *Squawkietalkie* (86848) **4.00** *Close*

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

6.00pm Sightings (6846379) **9.00** Sightings (8331076) **9.30** Sightings (6339783) **10.00** Space Precinct (6829602) **11.00** Friday the 13th (2695373) **12.00** FILM: Vamp (1986) (6799461) **1.50am** New Buzz Bytes (9579596) **2.00** Dark Shadows (8384409) **2.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (8363916) **3.00** Friday the 13th (1417645) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting (1873027) **9.30** *Gardener's Diary* (4654331) **10.00** The Great Gardening Plot (9368805) **10.30** New Yankee Workshop (1862911) **11.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (1005379) **11.30** Hometime (1006008) **12.00** Garden Party (1653263) **12.30pm** Two's Country (4665447) **1.00** Greg and Max's Just for Starters (6396534) **1.30** Home Again (4664718) **2.00** Furniture to Go (9903244) **2.30** Homemaker (9991669) **3.00** Two's *Country* (9922379) **3.30** *The Old House* (9986114) **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Lonely Planet (1089331) **5.00** Ancient Warriors (9927824) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (9995485) **6.00** Wild Discovery: *Gorillas — Tender Giants* (4673466) **7.00** Discovery News (9907060) **7.30** Disaster (9972534) **8.00** Untamed Amazonia (9228992) **9.00** Journey to the Centre of the Earth (9248756) **10.00** The U-Boat War (9241843) **11.00** *Wings* (5306911) **12.00** Flightline (2368138) **12.30am** Justice Files (8613954) **1.00** Disaster (7856157) **1.30** Discovery News (6143225)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Endangered Otters and Oil (4371379) **7.30** Race for the Pallo (7934176) **8.00** Giant Pandas: The Last Refuge (7284534) **9.00** Mountains of Fire (7204398) **10.00** *Chesapeake Borne* (7207485) **11.00** Life Boat: Shaken Not Stirred (8114737) **11.30** Life Boat: In Safe Hands (2640534) **12.00** Living Treasures of Japan (4579954) **1.00am** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Weapons at War (2447244) **5.00** The Great Ships (6184814) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (2611398) **7.00** Biography: Jack Lemmon (5759881) **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.00pm Cross Wits (3244) **5.30** Say the *Word* (5718) **6.00** *Family Fortunes* (5331) **6.30** Catchphrase (9911) **7.15** The $64,000 Question (252553) **8.00** Split Second (812621) **8.30** Move on Up (1263) **9.15** Winner Takes All (513176) **10.00** Treasure *Hunt* (98992) **11.15** *Whittle* (536640) **12.00** Say the Word (27916) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (74193) **1.30** The Big Valley (11848) **2.30** Big Brother Jake (44886) **3.00** My Two Dads (80157) **3.30** Where I Live (35138) **4.00** *Snow River: The McGregor Saga* (54041) **5.00** Shopping (57577)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (3584485) **9.00** I Dream of Jeannie (2884824) **9.30** The Gordon Elliott Show (4494027) **10.10** Jerry Springer (4319911) **11.00** *The Young and the Restless* (3551008) **11.50** Brookside (78065114) **12.20pm** Why Me? (1361534) **1.00** Tempestt (1602756) **2.30** Cheap Chic (2816718) **3.00** Live at Three Compilation (21423379) **4.05** *Jerry Springer* (5532553) **5.00** Rolonda (7542553) **5.50** Lucky Ladders (1439961) **6.20** Ready, Steady, Cook (3120391) **7.00** Hearts Afire (4162805) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (2820911) **8.00** *Adrenalin Junkies* (1158992) **9.00** FILM: Obsessed with a Married Woman (1984) (1166379) **11.00** The Spicy Sex Files (3234114) **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Film Deewane **8.00** Raahat **8.30** Out and About **9.00** FILM: Mera Qasoor Kya Hai **11.30** Margarita **12.00** Parampara **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00** Punjabi FILM: Jor Jatt Di **4.00** ZEE Zone Presents **4.05** Ikke Pe Ikka **4.30** Hum Panch **5.00** *Zone Time* **5.25** *It's My Show* **6.00** *The* Most Mast Show **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Your Zindagi **7.30** It's My Choice **8.00** News *and Euronews* **8.30** *Salaab* **9.00** Hindi FILM: Vijaypath **12.00** Close

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Roger Bootle on when greed turns to fear

BUSINESS

BEST BRANDS 46
Britons lead designer revolution

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY OCTOBER 27 1997

Bitter pill for Glaxo Wellcome as rivals capture sales

By Paul Durman

LESS than three months since first being exposed to unbranded competition, Glaxo Wellcome's top-selling ulcer drug has already lost more than half its US sales to rivals that are on course to reduce prices 85 per cent by the end of the year.

Zantac, once the world's biggest-selling pharmaceuticals, lost its US patent protection in July, allowing generic drug companies to begin supplying ranitidine hydrochloride, as it is known chemically. According to an industry estimate, the six generic firms that have so far entered the market have already captured 57 per cent of prescriptions.

Nigel Barnes, analyst at Merrill Lynch, is wary of Glaxo Wellcome because of the speed with which it is losing Zantac sales to the generic version. He points out that Novartis, the Swiss drugs company that is supplying ranitidine through its generic arm, is predicting the generic price will fall to only 15 per cent of the branded price by the end of the year. The growing differential will hasten Glaxo Wellcome's loss of sales.

Glaxo Wellcome shares have been highly volatile this year. On Friday, they closed at £12.55, against a 1997 high of £14.06 and a low of 894p.

Sir Richard Sykes, Glaxo Wellcome's chairman and chief executive, has conceded that the company will eventually lose 90 per cent of its Zantac sales, but the erosion of the US business is taking place much faster than in other similar cases.

Novartis says the price erosion has been dramatic since the first generics appeared at the start of August. It estimates the price had fallen to 50 per cent of brand by the end of the first month and to 25 per cent by the end of September. This is set to continue as Geneva, the Novartis generic business, and others battle for market share.

Since generic drugs are by definition medicinally identical, price is overwhelmingly the most important factor. Industry models suggest the speed and scale of price erosion depends on the number of competitors that appear.

Zantac seems set for a much more rapid demise than that suffered by Tagamet, a similar ulcer drug from SmithKline Beecham that lost its patent a few years ago. According to AT Kearney, the consultants, one year after entry to the market, generics had captured 65 per cent of sales but the price discount to the brand was limited to 50 per cent.

The sales of generic companies are expected to grow rapidly in the next few years, with many large-selling drugs approaching the end of patent protection.

City watchdog system faces radical reform

By Caroline Merrell

DISCIPLINARY procedures for financial companies are expected to be radically overhauled under the new single regulatory organisation.

Plans for the new body, provisionally named NewRo, are to be revealed this week. The single authority will replace nine regulatory organisations and will have responsibility for supervising banks, investment companies, building societies, securities firms, financial advisers and insurers. Howard Davies, the NewRo chairman, will present proposals to senior representatives from the industry tomorrow. He will also unveil the new name.

The introduction of a single supervisory body will simplify the current regulatory system, under which many financial companies have more than one regulator. The new organisation is expected to move away from self-regulation, where representatives from the companies are largely responsible for the regulatory framework, to a more legalistic system, under which public interest groups will have a greater influence on policy.

But a shift to a system more akin to the Securities and Exchange Commission in America is bound to create friction among the companies, many of which are already struggling to compensate thousands of people who were mis-sold personal pensions.

Executives at the super regulator are also believed to want the disciplinary process to be more consistent, and swifter. For instance, the Personal Investment Authority (PIA) the retail regulator, has fined a number of companies for being slow to pay compensation to pensions mis-selling victims. However, the PIA is yet to fine any company for the mis-selling itself, despite the fact that many of the pensions were bought in the late 1980s, and the problems of mis-selling have been known about for the last four years.

An overhaul of the disciplinary process could also include introducing greater powers to fine companies. Another inconsistency in the system was revealed last week when the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the chief city watchdog, rebuked the Prudential, the UK's biggest insurance company, for failing to tackle its mis-selling problems properly. Unlike other life insurance companies regulated by the PIA, the Prudential escaped a fine because SIB cannot impose fines.

The new super-regulator is not expected to be fully operational until 2000. At the moment, staff from the nine regulators are being asked to apply for jobs at NewRo and no job losses are expected.

The power of love: National Youth Theatre actors Lucy Punch and David Nicolle as Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet at Peterborough power station to launch a three-year, £870,000 sponsorship of the theatre group by The Energy Group

Yahoo! puts free market news on the Net

By Chris Ayres

YAHOO!, the Internet information company, will today launch a continuous stock market news and data service, available free to anyone with access to a computer and modem (Chris Ayres writes).

The service, to run on a 20-minute delay and to include financial news from Reuters and the Press Association, will be a direct challenge to its more traditional wire-based rivals, such as ICV's Topic. It will be funded by advertising revenues.

Other features of the service will include exchange rates, precious metal prices, company profiles and share prices from Paris and Frankfurt stock markets.

A direct link will be given to Yahoo!'s service in the US, which combines New York Stock Exchange share prices with a broking service.

Yahoo! was created three years ago by David Filo and Jerry Yang, two American PhD students, who each made £90 million when it was floated on the New York Stock Exchange last year. Its name stands for Yet Another Hierarchical Officious Oracle.

The company aims to capitalise on the swelling number of private investors in Britain — currently estimated to be more than 18 million — created partly by the conversion of building societies into banks. Yahoo! is expected to launch a cut-price online stockbroking service next year.

If Yahoo! goes ahead with its UK share trading service it will face an intense battle with current online broking companies such as ShareLink, City Deal and Stocktrade.

Utilities finds chief to replace Pitcher

By Our Industrial Correspondent

UNITED UTILITIES is close to naming a successor to Sir Desmond Pitcher, its embattled chairman. The United board will meet tomorrow to ratify the appointment of a senior business figure, believed to be from outside the utilities sector and to be announced in the next few days.

The appointment of the new chairman will not hasten the departure of Sir Desmond, who is expected to defy pressure from institutions to leave before next summer, following the sacking in July of Brian Staples, chief executive.

The chairman-elect is expected to work for several months alongside Sir Desmond to get to grips with the business, which next year faces the introduction of competition into household electricity.

City braced for EMU verdict

By Janet Bush, economics editor

FINANCIAL markets are braced for today's statement of government policy towards the European single currency from Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

After weeks of ambiguity in ministers' comments and contradictory press reports, traders are nervous about the contents of what is hoped will be the final exposition of the Government's position on economic and monetary union.

Business leaders are also anxious to see the contents of the Chancellor's statement, with the Confederation of British Industry and the British Chambers of Commerce privately dismayed last week at reports that joining the single currency would be ruled out for the lifetime of this Parliament.

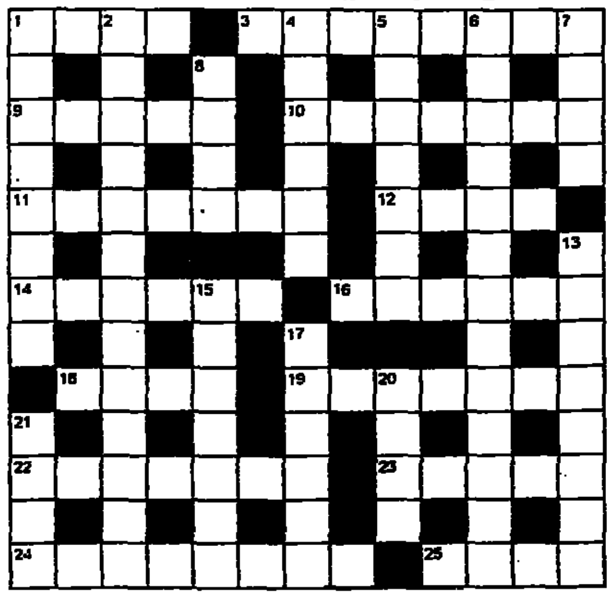
A CBI survey published today suggests that the strong pound is having a severe adverse impact on small and medium-sized busineses, with exports falling at their fastest rate in 19 years.

Yesterday NatWest Bank embarked on its biggest-ever training scheme to prepare its 5,200 corporate banking staff to deal with EMU. The plan is to equip staff with the skills needed to help the bank's 35,000 corporate customers to do business in euros, whether or not Britain joins the single currency.

Patrick Foley and Trevor Williams, the Lloyds Bank economists, today argue that the fact that Britain's economic cycle is out of sync with the rest of Europe is not an impediment to entry either in 1999 or later. They believe that, by 1999, British rates may be only 1 per cent higher than the average of European interest rates.

Labour's policy on EMU, page 20
Leading article, page 21

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1235

ACROSS
1 Kitchen receptacle; largish (sum) (4)
3 Luggage conveyor; a musical (8)
9 Rooftop length (5)
10 Prosperity; state aid (7)
11 Long journey (after Homer) (7)
12 Unclothed (4)
14 Sit badly; sort of hat (6)
16 Resilience; recoil (6)
18 Hideous (4)
19 Small-size newspaper (7)
22 Put away (knife) (7)
23 Walk furtively (along) (5)
24 Unqualified (8)
25 Badly-brought-up child (4)

DOWN
1 Prov. slow-moving pet (8)
2 Crane-fly (5-4-4)
4 Without exception (6)
5 Disney World city; marries Rosalind (AYLI) (7)
6 Regular payment by bank (8,5)
7 German art song; fibbed (4)
8 Dame Myra —; lone Spandau inmate (4)
13 First-place tie (4,4)
15 Regular-shaped mineral; fine glass (7)
17 Urban road (6)
20 Good Tudor Queen (4)
21 Highest, most populated continent (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1234
ACROSS: 1 Wonderland 9 Tooling 10 Freer 11 Fore 12 Reprieve 14 Endure 15 Helmet 18 Shelving 20 Flea 22 Ibsen 23 Achieve 24 Temperance
DOWN: 2 Odin 3 Dogged 4 Reformer 5 Abele 6 Derwentwater 7 Stuffed shirt 8 Horrid 13 Provence 16 Millet 17 Ankara 19 Epsom 21 Chic

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BA plans no-frills service to Europe

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

BRITISH AIRWAYS is working on plans for a cheap, no-frills service for Europe in a move that would intensify the price war among airlines.

BA has commissioned research on how a low-cost service would be received in a wide number of European destinations. Its emphasis is on leisure travel but it is also examining the needs of younger travellers.

The new no-frills service would compete with the budget lines such as EasyJet, Ryanair, Debonair and Virgin Express, which have been successful on short-haul routes. These airlines undercut standard fares by between 40 per cent and 80 per cent.

A cheaper BA service would also target passengers who use Eurostar to Paris and Brussels. A fresh round of price cuts among the airlines would be inevitable with the arrival of a new strong player in the sector. It is likely that BA's service would start next year and fly out of Stansted airport in Essex.

Alliance opposes Liberty chairman

By Martin Barrow

BRIAN MYERSON, the South African investor, has joined forces with the Stewart-Liberty family to unseat Denis Cassidy as chairman of Liberty, the upmarket retailer, it emerged yesterday.

Mr Myerson's Concerto Capital Corporation, which speaks for 17 per cent, is supporting the family, with 27.2 per cent, in their call for an extraordinary meeting to remove Mr Cassidy.

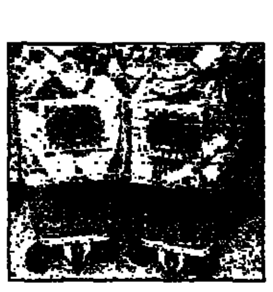
The unexpected alliance is certain to raise eyebrows in the City. It was Mr Myerson who, in 1992, campaigned against the Stewart-Liberty family and the then archaic share structure.

On Friday Elizabeth Stewart-Liberty, the matriarch of the family, requisitioned an extraordinary meeting to remove Mr Cassidy and to seek the appointment of two new non-executive directors. These are Mr Myerson and Odile Griffith, who represents the Stewart-Liberty family.

The move reflects concern at Liberty's ailing share price, unchanged at 305p on Friday against a 1996 high of 442½p, as the company embarks on a £40 million refit of the flagship Regent Street store in London.

The move is supported by Richard Stewart-Liberty and his brother Oliver, who were the last family members to serve as directors. Mr Cassidy will hold a board meeting this week to consider his next move.

This week in THE TIMES



■ **Tomorrow**
Currency markets weigh up Gordon Brown's Commons statement on European Monetary Union — will Britain join EMU?

■ **Thursday**
J Sainsbury banks on narrowing the gap with Tesco in the superstores league

■ **Friday**
British Telecom counts the cost of its American ambitions and the windfall tax as it heads towards a second quarter loss

Top chef and Granada put stock market on menu

Cook's tour de force

By Martin Waller

THE stock market, already buffeted by last week's storms, should batten down the hatches for the arrival of an even fiercer typhoon. Marco Pierre White, celebrity chef, intends to float his joint venture with Granada Group within two years.

The man whose reputation for rudeness and temper tantrums eclipses his fame in the kitchen was brought in by Granada this summer to inject some flair into hotels acquired as part of last year's Forte takeover. The pair formed a joint venture, MPW Criterion, which includes Mr White's Criterion restaurant on Piccadilly, originally a collaboration with Forte, his Quo Vadis in Soho and the Mirabelle. He will be taking on culinary duties at seven Granada hotels.

Charles Allen, Granada's chief executive, wants to bring diners back to the grand hotels, which currently lack any reputation for culinary excellence, and take trade from upmarket restaurants.

Mr White intends to take the company public by selling shares as part of a flotation. His plans were contained in the memorandum of agreement signed with Granada in August, although his partner is believed to favour a longer wait before going to market.

Mr White confirmed his intention to float but refused to comment further. He said: "I don't like your tone. There are lots of other people who are doing interesting things who I'm sure will give you a story. I'm a busy man."

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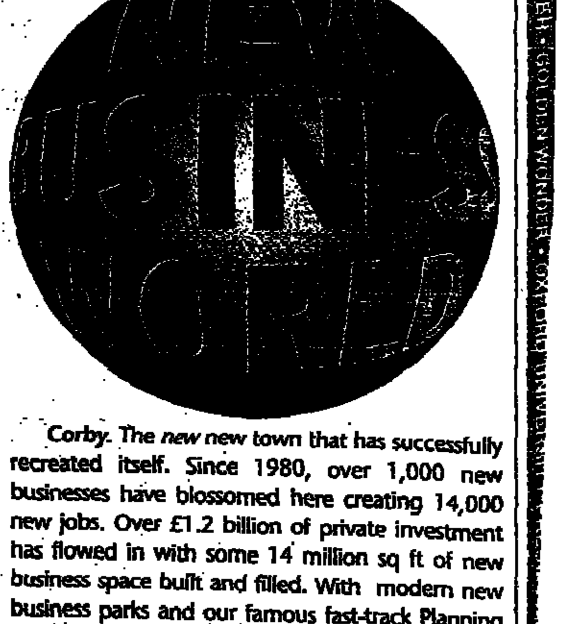

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